

Exploitation of Minerals in Himachal Pradesh

5034. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Himachal Pradesh for the exploitation of various minerals in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). To enable exploration and mining of minerals the State Government grant Prospecting Licences and Mining Leases in accordance with the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 and rules made thereunder. In respect of minerals listed in the First Schedule of the Act prior approval of Central Government is required before such licences and leases can be granted. A number of such proposals from Himachal Pradesh Government for grant of Prospecting Licences and Mining Leases have been approved.

Tackling of Naxalism

5035. SHRI RABIRAY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Chief Ministers of Naxalite affected States was recently convened by the Union Government to tackle the problem of Naxalism in the country; and

(b) if so, the details alongwith the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIM. M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra Madhya Pradesh and Orissa gave detailed account of various aspects relating to the problem of Left Wing Extremism in their States. In the discussions that followed, it was agreed that the State Governments would prepare Action Plans incorporating maintenance of law and order as also of developmental measures which are necessary to tackle the root cause of the problem. The consensus that emerged was that the Ministry of Home Affairs should act as the Nodal Agency in this regard. The Home Minister assured all possible help to the State Governments in the matter.

Barak Dam Project

5036. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of the Barak Dam Project in Assam;

(b) the estimated cost of the Project and the expenditure incurred thereon so far; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). The estimated cost of the Barak Dam project at 1988 price level is Rs. 1316 crores. The Project is yet to be sanctioned. However preconstruction activities are proposed to be taken up after the current monsoon. So far Rs. 182 lakhs has been incurred on surveys and investigations for project formulation.

(c) About 11 years after starting the execution of project works.

Opening of Post Offices and Telegraph Offices in Kangra District of Himachal Pradesh

5037. SHRI D.D. KHANORIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the villages in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh without a subpost office or a telegraph office at present; and

(b) the number of villages identified for opening of such post offices/sub-post offices or telegraph offices during 1991-92?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 3656 villages of Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh are without a sub post office and 3593 villages are without a telegraph office.

(b) During 1991-92 five villages have been identified for opening telegraph offices and no villages has been identified for opening a sub post office in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh. However as on 1-4-1991, the number of extra departmental branch post offices in Kangra district was 497.

Student-Police Patrol Scheme

5038. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new scheme of "Student-Police Patrol" has been introduced by the Delhi Police;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made under the Scheme so far; and

(d) whether the Union Government propose to issue directives to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to implement this Scheme there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir. A scheme 'Student on Patrol' has been introduced in South District of Delhi Police from April, 1991.

(b) The scheme aims at fostering closer public-police relations, making students security conscious and involving them in collection of intelligence and detection of certain crimes.

(c) One hundred seventy four students have been enrolled under the scheme.

(d) The Government has no such proposal under consideration.

[Translation]

INDO-USSR Co-Operation In the Field of Agriculture

5039. SHRI RAM SARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-Soviet Working Group on Agriculture have identified new areas of co-operation in the field of agriculture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The third Meeting of the Indo-Soviet Working Group for Cooperation in the field of Agriculture was held in Moscow from May 24-31, 1990. The Working Group laid emphasis on developing new forms of