

17 million tonnes and those in Sataun, Bhatrog and Kyari areas are estimated at over 143 million tonnes.

Occurrences of coal and lignite, steatite, gypsum, iron ores, pyrites, lead-zinc-silver ores, barite, copper-cobalt-nickel ores, china clays, dolomite, gold, antimony and bismuth ores, calc-tufa, sulphur, chromite and yellow ochre have also been recorded. The iron ore deposits are small and of poor grade. Gypsum and china clay deposits are, however, large. Known occurrences of the other minerals are not economically workable.

#### Grading of Coal

491. { Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:  
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 470 on the 6th March, 1964 and state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the expert committee in sampling and grading of coal have since been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of **Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering** (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) and (b). The recommendations of the Expert Committee are under consideration.

#### Export of Iron Ore

492. { Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:  
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Will the Minister of **International Trade** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1290 on the 1st May, 1964 and state:

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation has concluded any contract with the German Democratic Republic for export of iron ore; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of **International Trade** (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A contract for 20,000 tons firm and 60,000 tons at Buyer's option has been signed by the Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd., with M/s. Bergbau Handel of the G.D.R. against payment in non-convertible Indian Rupees.

#### Shortage of Soft Timber

493. { Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:  
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Will the Minister of **Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of soft timber required for the manufacture of matches; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to overcome this shortage?

The Minister of **Industry** (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). Attention is invited to answer given to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 243 on 23rd August, 1963. There is no change in the information furnished at that time.

#### Fuel Efficiency Committee

494. { Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:  
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 903 on the 3rd April, 1964 and state:

(a) whether the representations made by the coal industry have since been examined on the basis of a schedule which has been drawn up by the Fuel Efficiency Committee; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of **Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering** (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) and (b). On the basis of the representations made by the coal industry, the Fuel Efficiency