

of other States and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government have made any survey to determine the export potential of the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to boost up export of raw material available in Madhya Pradesh?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Mining Areas of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra

5770. Shri G. C. Dixit :
Shri G. S. Mishra :

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of mining areas Government have kept in reserve in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra State for the mining of manganese, coal, clay and dolomite for their use

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of manganese mines and coal mines in South-western part of Madhya Pradesh and Vidarbha region of Maharashtra have become uneconomical and are on the verge of closure, thus rendering thousands of workers unemployed; and

(c) if so, why Government are not throwing open new areas for mining lease?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) A statement showing particulars of areas reserved for exploitation in the public sector of manganese and dolomite in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra States is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1055/67]. No. areas of clay and coal have been reserved in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra for exploitation in the public sector. The Central Government has, however, acquired coal bearing areas of Shahdol, Surguja and Sidhi Districts in Madhya Pradesh and Umer and Silewara coal mines in Nagpur District of Maharashtra for ex-

ploitation by the National Coal Development Corporation.

(b) No report regarding the closure of manganese and coal mines in Madhya Pradesh has been received by the State Government. However, in Maharashtra State, during the period 1962-66, 102 manganese mines were closed due to depletion of ore reserve or lack of demand and uneconomic working of mines. One coal mine in the State was also closed down due to certain difficulties in managing its working.

(c) A statement giving particulars of manganese bearing areas, the working of which was considered uneconomic in the public sector and which for this reason have been thrown open for exploitation by private parties, is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1055/67]. In Madhya Pradesh, no such manganese bearing areas have been 'de-reserved' for grant of mineral concessions to private mining interests. It is felt that it will be in national interests to work these areas in the public sector.

एरुर सुभाष राई खनिज

5772. श्री श्रीकार लाल बोहरा :

क्या इस्पात, खान तथा धातु मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बहुत वर्ष पूर्व डूंगरपुर के मंडवपाल क्षेत्र में फ्लुओराइट खनिज के खनन के लिये बनाई गई योजना में अब तक कोई संतोषजनक प्रगति नहीं हुई;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इसका कारण वित्त का अभाव है; और

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस योजना को क्रियान्वित करने के आदिवासियों को रोजगार प्राप्त होने के अवसर उपलब्ध होंगे ?

इस्पात, खान तथा धातु मंत्री (डा० चन्ना रेड्डी) : (क) से (ग). आवश्यक सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और सदन के पटल पर रख दी जायगी ।