

(a) the number and names of languages regarded as regional in the Armed Forces for the recruits and other Active Servicemen hailing from the Northern and North-Western States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether any facilities are made available to the Army Personnel belonging to these areas for acquiring proficiency in these languages; and

(c) if so, the nature of these facilities?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) The medium of instruction and the recognised language in the Army is Hindi. No other regional language as such is recognised.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Chairman and managing director in Bharat Earth Movers Limited

8990. SHRI NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Earth Movers Limited is having both a part time Chairman and full time Managing Director, even though the Administrative Reforms Commission and the Committee on Public Undertakings have disapproved of this practice;

(b) whether the Committee on Public Undertakings has not found it possible to justify the maintenance of these two Principal Functionaries; and

(c) if so, the period by which the Government would implement this recommendation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). Bharat Earth Movers Limited at present, has a part-time Chairman and also a full-time Managing Director. The Government have considered the observations of the Committee on Public

Undertakings but it is not proposed to make any change in the present arrangement in the case of this Company for the time being.

Delay in execution of project, Bharat Earth Movers Limited

8991. PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee on Public Undertakings has not been satisfied with reply furnished by the Ministry of Defence regarding the delay of two years in the execution of the Project B.E.M.L. (vide 26th Report concerning the Bharat Earth Movers Limited);

(b) if so, whether Government propose to avoid such situations in future; and

(c) the reasons for which the Government waited for two years for the availability of Foreign Exchange from U.S. Sources, even after their inability had become definitely known?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). Government has in its reply to the Committee on Public Undertakings already fully explained the circumstances resulting in the delay of two years (from 1965 to 1967) in the implementation of the Heavy Earthmoving equipment project of Bharat Earth Movers Limited.

2. It will always be Government's endeavour to avoid delays in the execution of projects. In this particular case, it was decided to wait for the availability of foreign exchange from US Sources until the middle of 1967, for the following reasons:

(i) the USA was considered to be a suitable source in respect of the capital equipment required for the project;

(ii) the foreign exchange involved was large and there were difficulties of covering it from other sources.

(iii) the trend of discussions held by officials of the Indian Embassy in Washington with officials of the US EXIM Bank during the intervening period had held out hopes of the foreign exchange requirement being met from US sources; and

(iv) it was only towards the middle of 1967 that it became clear that US EXIM loan was not likely to be available for this project.

Officers and Jawans of Indian Armed Forces of District Bhilwara killed in 1971

8992. SHRI HAMENDRA SINGH BANERA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) how many Officers and Jawans of the Indian Armed Forces were killed during the 1971 Indo-Pak war who were from District Bhilwara in Rajasthan with their names; and

(b) what kind of relief has been given to their families with particulars of each family?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (Shri J. B. PATNAIK): (a) and (b). A statement showing the requisite details is attached.

Geological Surveys of India in Banera, District Bhilwara, Rajasthan

8993. SHRI HAMENDRA SINGH BANERA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Geological Survey of India are working in Banera, District Bhilwara in Rajasthan;

(b) the report of this area if submitted by the Geological Survey of India; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to start the project with its broad lines?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA) : (a) Preliminary drilling carried out by the Geological Survey of India in Banera area had indicated copper mineralisation in the hill adjacent to Banera and near Manpura village. An ore shoot intersected in the former area is about 2m. in width containing 0.59 to 1.72 per cent copper; while the one intersected in Manpura contains 1 per cent to 2 per cent copper. The strike extension, depth and width of the mineralised zones are being explored. The stage for reserve estimation is not yet reached.

Airborne Mineral Surveys & Exploration a wing of Geological Survey of India now, have also carried out detailed investigation for copper, as a follow up of aerial surveys, in an area about 4 kms. from Banera. So far, 25 drill-holes have been completed aggregating a total drilling of 4490.33 metres. The drilling investigations, carried out so far, have confirmed the presence of a copper mineralised zone of 9 metre thickness over a strike length of 600 metres with assay value ranging from 0.8 to 1.2 per cent copper. Tentatively, the reserves have been estimated at 4 million tonnes of ore.

(b) The work is still in progress.

(c) Does not arise.

Procedure of Granting Mining Concessions.

8994. SHRI HAMENDRA SINGH BANERA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the procedure and time involved in finalising the grant of mining concession to an individual from the day of the application?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): Application for grant of mining concession is made to the State Government in accordance with the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960.

These rules, *inter alia*, lay down that an application for grant of a prospecting licence or mining lease should be disposed.