

to give more tea industries opportunities to the public;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total number of fresh areas to be undertaken under this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). The tea industry is mainly in the private sector. However, the 7th Plan envisages incentives for increasing the area under tea cultivation as well as investments in existing tea areas with the objective of increasing the production.

Target for extension planting is 24,450 hectares. Targets in respect of four major tea producing States are given below :

Assam	...	11,050 hect.
West Bengal	...	3,500 hect.
Tamil Nadu	...	1,900 hect.
Kerala	...	1,600 hect.

The employment potential in tea plantations is about 2.5 workers per hectare.

[Translation]

Agreement for the Welfare of Colliery Workers

4489. SHRI SARFRAZ AHMED : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement was concluded by Government through joint bilateral committee for the welfare of colliery workers under the NCWA III-Chapter-9 (Social security) clause number 9.4.4;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government are aware of the non-implementation of the said agreement for the welfare of colliery workers by the Coal India Ltd; and

(d) if so the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES

AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Clause provides that one dependant of the retiring employee would be provided employment.

(c) and (d). The constitutional validity of this provision has been challenged in a Court of Law and the matter is now *sub-judice*.

Allotment on Land of Lease for Opium Growing in Madhya Pradesh

4490. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to remove the anomalies in the policy of allotting land on lease for growing opium in Mandsaur and Ratlam districts of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether even the criteria fixed by Government are not being adhered to as the lease of those farmers have been cancelled who could not provide prescribed average quantity of opium owing to loss of their opium crop on account of natural calamities;

(c) if so, the time by which Government propose to take a policy decision so that cancelled leases are restored to the farmers; and

(d) whether Government have decided to bring more area under opium cultivation in Mandsaur and Ratlam districts and the time by which this decision will be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The Licensing Principles framed for each year lay down the policy for issue of licences for opium-poppy cultivation. No anomalies in these principles have been brought to the notice of Government.

These principles also contain provisions for affording appropriate relief in regard to the minimum yield to be tendered by the cultivator for obtaining licence, in case of crop damage caused by natural calamities,

etc. The criteria fixed in this regard are adhered to while issuing licence.

(c) and (d). In view of the continued difficult situation faced by India opium in the international market and the large stocks of opium lying with the Government factories, there is no proposal to restore cancelled licences or to increase the area under opium-poppy cultivation.

[English]

Smuggling of Uranium to Pakistan

4491. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether uranium which is a base material in the manufacture of atom bomb is being smuggled illegally from U.P., Bihar and from some other parts of the country into Pakistan through Nepal;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected by Government;

(c) whether any arrest has been made; and

(d) the preventive measures taken by Government in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Reports received by the Government do not indicate smuggling of uranium from India into Pakistan through Nepal.

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

(d) Strict security measures exist against any pilferage of uranium from the mine and mill complex. Further, appropriate anti-smuggling measures have been taken by the Government to check smuggling activities in general across the Indo-Nepal border. Bilateral arrangements also exist between India and Nepal under the Agreement for Co-operation to Control Unauthorised Trade. The preventive and intelligence machinery of the Customs department has been reinforced in the region, in terms of man-power and

equipment. In addition, the concerned Central and State Government agencies remain vigilant for appropriate action.

Allotment of Residential Accommodation to MMTC Employees

4492. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd., New Delhi, constructed its own residential colony for allotment to its employees;

(b) if so, the number of quarters constructed (type-wise) and date of appointment upto which allotments have been made (category-wise);

(c) number of employees not yet allotted accommodation alongwith date of their appointment in each category;

(d) whether MMTC propose to construct more flats for those employees who have not been allotted;

(e) if so, by what time and if not reasons therefor; and

(f) whether Government propose to issue instructions to MMTS to give priority to such employees who do not own house in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is enclosed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The first phase of construction is likely to be taken up during 1985-86.

(f) Government have no proposal under consideration to issue instructions on this subject to MMTC, which has its own Allotment Rules and procedures.