

(c) if such survey has already been conducted, the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) and (b). Exploration of minerals is a continuous process and is being continued in the Anantapur district of Andhra Pradesh also by the Geological Survey of India and the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Andhra Pradesh. The Central Ground Water Board has also completed hydrological surveys in the entire district of Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh.

(c) As a result of the surveys carried out so far, for the mineral investigations, the following reserves have been estimated :

Mineral	Reserves
Gold	2.588 million tonnes (5.6 gm/tonnes of gold)
Diamond	6 diamondiferous, kimberlite pipes located in Wajrakarur area. Diamond incidence poor.
Iron-ore (Hematite)	7.54 million tonnes
Limestone	0.09 million tonnes
Dolomite	0.018 million tonnes
China clay	1016 tonnes
Steatite	1.58 million tonnes
Silica sand	2817 tonnes

The Central Ground Water Board has estimated the utilisable ground water resources for the district to be of the order of 1878 million cubic meters per year in the Anantapur district.

#### Opening of Branches of Nationalised Banks in Orissa During 1985-86

3788. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :  
SHRI SOMNATH RATH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to open some more branches of the nationalised banks in Orissa in the current financial year 1985-86;

(b) if so, the number of such new branches of nationalised banks opened at different places in Orissa so far;

(c) the number of new branches of different commercial banks proposed to be opened by the end of the current financial year;

(d) the names of the places selected for opening of such branches; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (e). The branch licencing policy for 1985-90 has recently been finalised by Reserve Bank of India (RBI). The main objective of the policy is to achieve a coverage of 17,000 population per bank office in rural and semi-urban areas of each block and to eliminate large spatial gaps in the availability of banking facilities. RBI has advised the State Governments and the Lead Banks to identify the centres for opening bank offices to cover the underbanked pockets. The question of allowing more bank offices in Orissa would be considered by RBI on the basis of the list of centres that may be identified and forwarded by the Government of Orissa. During the period 1.1.85 to 30.6.85, 45 additional bank offices of the public sector banks were opened in Orissa. However, no quantitative target regarding number of bank branches to be opened during the current financial year has been fixed.

[Translation]

#### Incentives to Indian Exporters of Diamond

3789. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a few international monopoly houses are having a hold on the diamond trade;