

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि देश में ऊंची प्रतिशतता वाले जस्ते का यह सब से विशाल भंडार है; और

(ग) क्या वहां पाये गये जस्ते के विशाल भंडार को देखते हुए वहां जस्ता कारखाना लगाने का विचार है और पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में ऐसे कारखाने के बारे में सरकार की नीति क्या है?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूति और इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री प्रणब मुखर्जी) :

(क) जी हा।

(ख) और (ग). अब तक की गई खोजों से यह संकेत मिलता है कि इस निक्षेप में जस्ता-सीसा अयस्क के लगभग 26 मिलियन टन महत्वपूर्ण भण्डार है जिसमें औसतन लगभग 10 से 12 प्रतिशत जस्ता और 1 से 2 प्रतिशत सीसा है।

इस निक्षेप की और आगे गहन खोज की जा रही है और निक्षेप की क्षमता का पूरी तरह आकलन कर लेने के बाद ही उसके समुचित दोहन के प्रस्तावों पर विचार किया जाएगा।

Overdraft by West Bengal by Reserve Bank of India

2094. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether States, specially West Bengal, suffer from overdraft policy of the Central Government; and

(b) what is the latest order of the Reserve Bank of India regarding overdraft to be taken by the West Bengal State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA):

(a) and (b): Overdrafts of the States on the Reserve Bank of India are in contravention of Article 293(3) of the Constitution and the agreements required to be entered into by

the State Governments with the Reserve Bank of India under Section 21 (A) of the Reserve Bank of India Act. The scheme of regulation of States' overdrafts, framed in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India and the Planning Commission, and enforced with effect from the 1st October 1978, is in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and the proper relations between the Reserve Bank of India and the State Governments. This scheme does not permit any State Government to be continuously in overdraft for more than working days. The scheme is uniformly applicable to all the State Governments and any State with proper fiscal and financial management does not suffer any hardship under the scheme.

Sick tea gardens taken over by Central Government

2095. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK:
SHRI SUBODH SEN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of closed and sick tea gardens taken over by the Central Government and their names;

(b) the number of employees engaged in those units; and

(c) whether the employees concerned enjoy statutory benefits provided under different Acts?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) The names of the sick tea gardens whose management has been taken over by the Central Government under the provisions of the Tea Act, 1953 are given below:—

1. Pashok tea estate.
2. Looksan tea estate.
3. Vah-Tukvar tea estate.
4. Chargola tea estate.
5. Potong tea estate.
6. Kumai tea estate (since returned to owner)