

(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 मंत्रों (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)

(b) The total number of employees engaged in these gardens is 3198, excluding those in Kumai tea estate.

(c) Yes, subject to availability of funds, services and materials.

Amount spent on air journey by L.I.C. officers

2096. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on air journeys by Life Insurance Corporation officers in the country in last three years, year-wise;

(b) Is it a fact that some officers did not perform the journey even after purchase of ticket and even refund was not taken; and

(c) total amount spent on purchase of the tickets by L.I.C. officers and the journey not performed in last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

इस्पात का उत्पादन और मांग

2097. श्री मोती भाई शारदा चौधरी : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पाठशाला भवनों, चिकित्सालयों और होटलों जैसे सार्वजनिक संस्थानों के निर्माण के लिये उचित मूल्य पर इस्पात उपलब्ध कराने को सुनिश्चित करने हेतु कोई कदम उठाने का विचार है ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री प्रणब मुखर्जी) : पाठशाला भवनों, चिकित्सालयों, होस्टलों आदि सार्वजनिक संस्थाओं के निर्माण के लिए इस्पात की सप्लाई के लिए संयुक्त संघ

समिति द्वारा बनाई गई एक योजना पहले से चल रही है। सप्लाई इस योजना के अनुसार की जाती है बशर्ते कि माल उपलब्ध हो।

Setting up of Civil Supplies Corporations in States

2098. SHRI S. R. A. S. APPALANAI DU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to set up Civil Supplies Corporations for different States and Union Territories for distribution of essential commodities at controlled prices; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) & (b) Civil Supplies Corporations are to be set up by the concerned State Governments. Such Corporations exist in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The States of Manipur, Sikkim and Union Territory of Delhi are also considering setting up of such Corporations. The Civil Supplies Corporation wherever it exists is entrusted with handling essential commodities for the Public Distribution System in the State.

Group Insurance of L.I.C. for U.P. Govt. Employees

2099. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme of group insurance of L.I.C. for Uttar Pradesh Employees in Uttar Pradesh,

(b) whether Government are considering to discontinue it;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;