

Exploration of Minerals in Indian Ocean

6613. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Institute of Oceanography has carried out any investigation for the exploration of mineral and heavy mineral in Indian Ocean;

(b) if so, the areas covered so far and what are the findings; and

(c) steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a). Yes, Sir. The Department of Ocean Development with the help of the National Institute of Oceanography of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has launched a sizeable programme of survey of polymetallic nodules in the Indian Ocean.

(b) As a result of an extensive survey covering an area of nearly four million square kilometres in the Central Indian Ocean, two mine sites, each of 150,000 sq. km., have been identified. These sites fully meet the standards which have been prescribed internationally, such as, the density of nodules per sq. km. and the copper, nickel and cobalt content of the nodules.

(c) Correcting statement laid on 17th May, 1985. (in Part II Debates).

Amendment of Rules Regarding Initiation of Proceedings Against Retired Officers

6614. SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether, with a view to prevent Banks and other institutions from using retirement as an excuse to drop disciplinary action against delinquent employees, the Central Vigilance Commission sought some three years ago to have the rules amended "for continuance of initiation of such proceedings" even after retirement of an Officer, and

(b) if so, the stage at which the proposal stands at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is being considered in the Bureau of Public Enterprises and the Ministry of Finance (Banking Division).

Toning up of the Working of the Central Bureau of Investigation

6615. SHRI BIMAL KANTI GHOSH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to tone up the working of the Central Bureau of Investigation so that it may make significant dent on the problem of corruptions,

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) and (b). Considering the recommendations of the Estimates Committee of the 7th Lok Sabha, made in its 49th and 65th Reports, Government have appointed a Committee headed by the Cabinet Secretary to review the role, functions and the working of the Central Bureau of Investigation, and to suggest measures to tone up its working.

Grants to West Bengal and Punjab for Development of Sports

6616. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether West Bengal Government sought any grant, loan or assistance from Central Government during Sixtn Plan period upto 31 March, 1985 for the development of sports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and