

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Government are engaged in reviewing the growth and the present situation of the steel industry and mapping out its direction and course of development till the end of the century

Kolar gold mine

4989. SHRI H.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kolar gold mine is near exhaustion;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the present output and the estimated potential of the gold mineral in the Kolar gold mine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (b). The Mysore Mine, Champion Reef Mine and Nundydroog Mine of Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. (BGML) at Kolar Gold Fields (KGF) have been in operation for over a hundred years. The mineable gold ore reserves in these mines are being progressively exhausted due to continuous depletion on account of mining over the years.

(c) The production of gold at KGF during 1986-87 was 618.9 kgs. (Provisional). The existing mineable ore reserves in these mines as on 1st April, 1987, are estimated to be 3 897 million tonnes at an average insitu grade of 4.9 grammes per tonne. At the present annual depletion rate of 0.35 lakh tonnes, 0.53 lakh tonnes and 1.47 lakh tonnes at Mysore, Champion Reef and Nundydroog Mines their life expectancy is likely to be two, nine and twenty years, respectively.

Concern over threat to Jantar Mantar

4990 SHRI P R KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Archaeological Survey of India is concerned over the threat posed to Jantar Mantar due to ill-advised plan of NDMC to build another high rise building in the vicinity as reported in the Times of India dated 1 July, 1987; and

(b) if so, whether the NDMC plan is proposed to be reviewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). The New Delhi Municipal Committee which proposes to build another high rise building in the vicinity of Jantar Mantar, has been advised to adhere to the height restrictions suggested by the Archaeological Survey of India so that it does not cast shadows on the Yantras.

State Transport Authority permits

4991 SHRI KHELAM RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Transport Authority has issued State Transport Authority permits,

(b) if so, the total number of permits issued to ex-servicemen, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other categories during the last two years;

(c) whether the Delhi Transport Authority has invited applications from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for issue of State Transport Authority permits;

(d) if so, whether permits have been issued;

(e) whether some permits for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are lying unissued; and

(f) if so, the total number of such permits and the steps being taken to issue these

permits to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Number of Stage Carriage permits issued during the last two years is as under:—

Category	No. of permits issued
Ex-servicemen	51
SC/ST	18
Other categories	Nil

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f). Does not arise.

Luggage Booking Office, New Delhi Railway Station

4992 DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that some records pertaining to Luggage Booking Office, New Delhi Station, were seized by the Vigilance Department of Railway Board on 19 June 87,

(b) if so, whether any irregularities have been detected; and

(c) if so, whether any action has been taken against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Instructions have been issued to the Railway to initiate major penalty proceedings against a parcel clerk.

Steps to Encourage use of Laser Technology in Surgery

4993 SHRI K.S. RAO Will the Minister of

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the laser technology has improved the effectiveness of medical surgery in India:

(b) if so, what is the total number of medical institutions/hospitals using laser in surgery and broad results achieved by each of these institution/hospitals; and

(c) the details on various steps being taken by Government to encourage the use of laser in surgery and expected number of laser units to be installed in the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) According to the information available with the Government of India, the laser technology is being used for ophthalmic surgery in 20 Institutes in India. Surgery on brain, spinal cord etc. is being performed at six centres. The lasers are useful in surgical practice. They cut down surgery time and hospitalization. They give the surgeon a clear field for operating the results achieved so far in this technology are encouraging.

(c) The efforts are being made to encourage the use of lasers in surgery. However, no set plan has been prepared for installing the laser units in the next five years.

Teachers reaction to increase in school hours

4994. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently issued orders to Delhi Administration to increase 35 minutes more in daily school hours;