

Mineral Survey in Maharashtra

512. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have directed an extensive geological/survey and exploration in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the results thereof during the current field period and the plan for further exploration in 1988-89 field period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV):(a) and (b). As a part of its Annual Field Season Programme the Geological Survey of India undertakes extensive survey and exploration in the States including Maharashtra. The programme is prepared in consultation with the State Government authorities in the State Geological Programming Board and the Sub-Committees of the Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB). The programme is finally ratified by the CGPB.

During the Field Season Programme for 1987-88, which commenced from 1st October, 1987, systematic geological mapping is in progress in parts of Akola, Amravati, Buldana, Nagpur, Sangli, Satara, Solapur, Wardha and Yavatmal districts. Seven items of mineral investigation are also in progress, 2 each for tungsten and basemetal and one each for coal, mercury and molybdenum. Till December, 1987 about 1565 sq.km. of area has been covered by systematic geological mapping. Drilling for mercury and tungsten, and Geological and Geochemical Surveys for basemetals are also in progress. The plan for further exploration in Field Season 1988-89 will be formulated depending on the results achieved as well as on the new recommendations of State Government and other

agencies after due ratification by CGPB.

Denudation of Konkan Forests

513. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite efforts by the State Government the forests in the backward Konkan region of Maharashtra have not been adequately protected;

(b) whether this has affected the environment and the climate conditions in the Konkan region; and

(c) if so, what assistance is offered by Union Government to preserve and protect the environment in the Konkan region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) :(a) to (c). The information is being collected from the State Govt. and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Foreign Exchange Expenditure on Import of Spare Parts etc.

514. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign exchange expenditure on import of spare parts for meeting the requirements of the Railways has multiplied about ten-fold over that of 1979-80;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor along with yearwise expenditure since 1979-80; and

(c) whether Railways propose to revital-

ise its Research and Development activities in the interest of self-reliance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):(a) No, Sir. The expenditure on import of spares on Rolling Stock (Including custom duty) in 1979-80 was Rs. 47.03 crores which has increased to Rs. 161.16 crores in 1986-87. The increase in expenditure on import of spares since 1979-80 is mainly on account of increase in the number of diesel/electric locomotives and Electrical Multiple Units on the Indian Railways System; escalation in prices and adverse fluctuation of the exchange rates.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) This is a continuing process.

Wagon Manufacturing Units

515. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of Railway wagons in each wagon manufacturing units separately during the year 1987; and

(b) the productivity of labour and cost of production per wagon in each unit.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) The number of wagons manufactured by each wagon builder during 1987 (Jan.Dec'87) is given below:-

Firm		Figs. in FWs.
1		2
1.	Bharat Wagon & Engg.Co.Ltd. Muzaffarpur	790
2.	Bharat Wagon & Engg. Co.Ltd., Mokameh.	1005
3.	Braithwaite & Co. Ltd.	1347.5
4.	Burn Std.Co. Ltd.,Burnpur	1662.5
5.	Burn Std.Co. Ltd.,Howrah.	1125
6.	Jessop	465
7.	Commco Ltd., Bharatpur.	2006.5
8.	Hindustan Genl. Industries	920
9.	Modern Industries	910
10.	Texmaco Ltd.	4391.5
11.	Gerald Engg. Ltd.	615