

sion of Dombani Jore near Chasnalla colliery.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The total estimated cost of Chasnalla open cast mine project is Rs. 5.4 crores.

**ग्राल इंडिया बुक बांड एम्प्लॉईज फंडेशन
का बम्बई में हुआ सम्मेलन**

4606. श्री रामावतार शास्त्री: क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या ग्राल इंडिया बुक बांड एम्प्लॉईज फंडेशन का कोई सम्मेलन 10 और 11 जून, 1980 को बम्बई में हुआ था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या चाय उद्योग के बारे में उसमें लिये गये निर्णयों के सम्बन्धी सूचना उन्हें भेज दी गई है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका व्योरा क्या है ;

(घ) क्या फंडेशन ने समूचे चाय उद्योग का राष्ट्रीयकरण करने की मांग की है ; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उसके प्रति सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरशीद प्रसन्न खन्ना) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) जी नहीं ।

(ग) से (ङ). प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

Tax Relief of Low Level Tax Payers

4607. SHRI RASA BEHARI BEHERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Janata Government favoured the rich tax payers by raising the upper limit of the total amount qualifying for tax relief under the Income-Tax Act from Rs. 20,000/- to Rs. 30,000/-; and

(b) if, so, whether, in order to encourage savings, Government propose to give corresponding tax relief to low level tax payers and raise the other limit of savings qualifying for tax relief under section 80-C from the present 30 per cent of gross total income to 45 per cent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA): (a) With a view to providing a further incentive for effecting long-term savings through life insurance, provident funds and other similar instruments, the Finance Act, 1978 increased the monetary limit with respect to savings qualifying for deduction under section 80C of the Income-tax Act, 1961 from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 30,000 in the case of individuals and married couples governed by the system of community of property in force in the Union territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Goa, Daman and Diu. The percentage limit of 30 per cent of the gross total income, however, remained unchanged.

(b) At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for raising the aforesaid percentage limit from 30 per cent to 45 per cent.

**Utilised Capacity of Korba Smelter of
Bharat Aluminium Company
Limited**

4608. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) total unutilised capacity of the Korba Smelter of Bharat Aluminium Company Limited, because of shortage of power;

(b) quantity of aluminium which has to be imported in the current year because of shortfall in production at Korba; and

(c) the value of such import?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) About 70 per cent of the installed capacity of 100,000 tonnes per annum of the Korba Smelter is not being utilised for want of power.

(b) and (c). Besides the shortfall in BALCO's production for want of adequate power, production in other plants will also be below capacity during the current financial year on account of problems in power availability mainly in the first half of the year. In view of the large gap between the expected production and demand, the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation has already contracted during 1980-81 for import of 105,700 tonnes of aluminium at an approximate value of Rs. 165 crores.

Issue of Licences for Export and Import

4609. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the parties to whom import and export licences have been issued since January, 1980; and

(b) the method followed for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) The names of the parties to whom import and export licences are issued, are published in the "Weekly Bulletin of Import Licences, Export Licences and Industrial Licences". Copies of these Bulletins are supplied to the Parliament Library.

(b) Import/Export licences are issued to eligible persons, companies and firms in accordance with the provisions of import/export policy in force. The method followed for issuing these licences is laid down in 'Hand Book of Import-Export Procedures' published every year.

Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

4610. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Visakhapatnam steel plant will cost Rs. 100 crore more as a result of the official decision to change the product mix; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The matter relating to the capacity of the Universal Deam Mill in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant is still under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

Foreign Exchange Reserves

4611. SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the position of the foreign exchange reserves till date including gold and special drawing rights; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) and (b). The foreign exchange reserves (including Gold and Special Drawing Rights) as on 5th December, 1980 amounted to Rs. 5631.57 crores comprising of Foreign currency assets worth Rs. 4883.48 crores, Gold holdings equivalent to Rs. 225.57 crores and Special Drawing Rights equivalent to Rs. 522.52 crores.

राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों द्वारा अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों को दिये गये ऋण

4612. श्री हीरालाल द्वार० परमार : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या उन अनुसूचित जातियों तथा अनुसूचित जनजातियों और गरीब व्यक्तियों की, जिन्हें गत 5 वर्षों के दौरान राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों द्वारा ऋण दिये गये थे, राज्यवार तथा गुजरात में जिलावार तथा वर्षवार संख्या और ऋण दिये जाने के आधार तथा इस सम्बन्ध में तथ्यों सहित पूर्ण व्यौरा सभा पटल पर रखा जायेगा ?