

**Declaration of Sawaimadhapur District  
as backward District**

6447. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL :  
SHRI RAM KUMAR MEENA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Government of Rajasthan during the recent past have approached the Central Government to declare some more of their districts as backward districts including Sawaimadhapur ;

(b) if so, whether Central Government have considered to declare particularly Sawaimadhapur District as backward District and if not, reasons for delay ;

(c) the time by which Sawaimadhapur District will be declared as a backward District ; and

(d) any finances earmarked by the Central Government for the upliftment of backward District of Rajasthan State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) to (c). No proposal has been received for declaration of Sawaimadhapur District as backward district ; the State Government had requested that desert areas may be identified as Special Regions and included in Category 'A'.

(d) No State-wise or district-wise allocations of funds are made for industrial development of backward areas.

**Minerals in Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri,  
West Bengal**

6448. SHRI SUBODH SEN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any prospecting of minerals was done in the foot hill range of Himalaya in the districts of Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri, West Bengal ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

**MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES  
(SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) : (a) Yes, Sir.**

(b) A reserve of 3.25 million tonnes of lead-zinc ore with 3.80 per cent Lead and 3.83 per cent Zinc has been estimated in Gorubathan area in Darjeeling District. A reserve of approximately 745.00 million tonnes of Dolomite has been estimated in Jainti area of Jalpaiguri district. Incidence of basemetal mineralisation within the Pedong area of Darjeeling District is at present under investigation. Regional Investigations of the Gondwana Coal belt in the foot hills of Darjeeling District has been carried out by the Geological Survey of India. Directorate of Mines and Minerals, Government of West Bengal has also initiated prospecting/exploratory work for coal in the area.

**Issue of Certificate for Freedom Fighters  
Pension**

6449. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any rule that the certificate for freedom fighters pension should be given to a freedom fighter by a person who lives in the same District ;

(b) if so, the full details of the rule ;

(c) if not, the number of persons who are denied freedom fighters pension due to the same reason ; and

(d) if it is not according to the rules, whether Government would take action against the officers, who denied the freedom fighters pension on that ground ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH) : (a) and (b). In the case of claims for Samman Pension based on suffering of abscondence/internment/externment under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme a certificate from a prominent freedom fighter with 5 years jail suffering, is considered for grant of Samman Pension if the certifier belongs to the same administrative unit namely, the district as the applicant as at the relevant time.