

**Drilling for Asbestos In Pulivendla Belt in Andhra Pradesh**

7025. SHRI ESWARA REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether drilling for asbestos was carried out in Pulivandla Belt, Cuddapah District, Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) if so, when and its results achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The Geological Survey of India have conducted extensive drilling for asbestos in Pulivendla belt in Cuddapah District, Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The first drilling operations in the Pulivendla belt were conducted around 1942 and reserves of about 2.5 lakh tonnes of asbestos were estimated. Drilling operations conducted from 1961 onwards have revealed an indicated reserve of 14,400 tonnes.

**Research assignment by Indian Bureau of Mines Re : Production of Asbestos in Andhra Pradesh**

7026. SHRI ESWARA REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Bureau of Mines took up last year research assignment regarding determination of size and shape of stopes for optimum production of asbestos from Pullivendla taluk, Cuddapah District, Andhra Pradesh ; and

(b) if so, its progress in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL & MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). The Indian Bureau of Mines carried out a mining geological study of Pullivendla Asbestos Belt in 1967 and not during the last year. One of the recommendations included in the report of this study regarding the size and shape of stopes was that "consideration should be given to develop the ore shoots into small stooks of 18m x 18m size centre to centre for an extraction height of 1.8 m. These stooks should be extracted diagonally from the dip side keeping the stope faces at right angles to the line of extension of the ore shoot, so that roof control can be best

achieved by keeping the stope faces at right angles to the line of maximum weakness." During the year 1970-71, follow-up studies of mining operations their entirety were carried out and the following three mines were covered :—

1. Brahmanpalle Asbestos Mines of M/s. Andhra Pradesh Mining Corporation Limited.
2. Kalimanigutta Mine of M/s. Krishnappa Asbestos and Barytes (P) Limited.
3. Reddy Asbestos Mine of M/s. Krishnappa Asbestos and Barytes (P) Limited.

**Setting up of Ancillary Industries based on Coal in Sindhi District (M.P.)**

7027. SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan for setting up of ancillary industries based on coal in the Sindhi District of Madhya Pradesh ; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Complaints of corruption against Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Bombay**

7028. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether complaints of corruption have been received against the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners, Bombay ;

(b) if so, the steps taken ; and

(c) the number of Provident Fund defaulters in this regard and the amount of arrears in Bombay Region ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The administration of the Employees' Provident Fund is the concern of the Central Board of Trustees set up under the Employees' Provident Fund and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 and is not the direct concern of the Government of