

**Tractor Training Centre in States**

4334. **SHRI BHUVARAHAN** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start Tractor Training Centres in all the States ;

(b) if so, the States where these Centres will be started ; and

(c) the cost of these Centres, State-wise ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHER SINGH)** : (a) to (c). In addition to the existing Tractor Training Centres at Budni (near Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh) and at Hissar (Haryana), a third Training Centre is being set up in Mysore for which a provision of Rs. 35 lakhs has been made in the Fourth Plan.

**Iron ore deposits in Tamil Nadu**

4335. **SHRI BHUVARAHAN** : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to recent Survey, iron ore deposits have been found in the far-surrounding areas of Kanchimalai hills in Salem, Tamil Nadu ;

(b) if so, the places where these iron ore deposits have been found ; and

(c) the action taken on the survey report ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN)** : (a) and (b). As a result of recent surveys a number of iron ore deposits have been located in the area around Kanjamalai Hills, Salem district as also the adjoining districts of Tamil Nadu. Prominent among these deposits are 35 crore tonnes in Tirthamalai Hill ; 19 lakh tonnes in Tirthamalai North Extension ; 37 lakh tonnes in Vadavattur ; 6.7 crore tonnes in Godumalai, Salem District ; 3.8 crore tonnes in Trichurapalli district ; 18 crore tonnes in Kavathimalai Vendappan Malai, Uchchimalai, Cherasam and Tirupattur, area west of Pudur and Keelur in North Arcot district. Most of the deposits

are of magnetite—quartzite type with iron content varying from 35 to 40%.

(c) A detailed project report has been prepared by M/s Dastur and Co. on the Kanchimalai Mining Plant for the Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation. The Hindustan Steel Construction Ltd. have taken up soil investigation work and have sent samples of iron ore to the National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur for test, results of which are awaited.

**Deposits of Gold and other rich minerals in Tamil Nadu**

4336. **SHRI BHUVARAHAN** : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to a recent survey there are rich deposits of gold and other rich minerals in Tamil Nadu ; and

(b) if so, the main findings thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN)** : (a) and (b). No rich deposits of gold or other rich minerals have recently been located in Tamil Nadu. Investigations conducted by the Geological Survey of India, during 1964-67 in the Wynad goldfield, generally revealed occurrences of poor gold values and pockety nature of mineralisation. A few precious/semi-precious minerals like Amethyst, Aquamarine, Chrysoberyl, Emerald in Coimbatore district ; Garnet in the Nilgiris, Pamanathapuram, Salem and Tiruchirappalli districts ; rock crystal (Vellum Stone) in Tanjore ; Ruby in Salem and Tiruchirappalli districts and Zircon in Kanyakumari have been reported.

Besides, occurrences of Molybdenite in Madurai district, Moulding sands in Chingleput and South Arcot districts ; Bauxite in Salem district and vermiculite in North Arcot district of Tamil Nadu have also been located during recent surveys. The investigations are still in progress.

**Canadian Aid for Dry Land Research in States**

4337. **SHRI BHUVARAHAN** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any programme for