

**THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR)**

(a) The Secretary-General of the United Nations, U Thant, issued two appeals—one on the 19th May and the other on 16th June, 1971. The first appeal was addressed to Governments, inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations as well as private sources to help, meet the urgent needs for humanitarian assistance to the refugees from East Pakistan in India. In the second appeal, the Secretary-General referred to organising of relief operations with the cooperation of Pakistan Government for the people in East Bengal and called upon Governments and other organisations to contribute in cash and kind to the humanitarian effort for assistance to the "people of East Pakistan" in East Pakistan itself. The Secretary-General stressed the point that the organisation of relief in East Pakistan was "a separate operation from the programme of assistance to refugees from East Pakistan in India, the two operations are related to the extent that as conditions in East Pakistan are improved, there will be a better possibility of arresting and reversing the flow of refugees."

(b) Does not arise.

**Termination of Services of Workers of Foreign Oil Companies at Ernakulam**

4900. **SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA**

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether some workers of the three private oil companies, Burmah Shell, ESSO and Caltex at Ernakulam had been removed from service by the employers according to 'Early Voluntary Retirement Scheme',

(b) if so, the number thereof,

(c) the opinion of Gokhale Commission of Enquiry on this question, and

(d) whether Government have implemented the recommendations of the said Commission of Enquiry?

**THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR)**

(a) to (b) The matter falls in the State-sphere. The Ministry of Labour have no information as to the exact number of workers removed from service under the 'Early Voluntary Retirement Scheme' by Foreign Oil Companies at Ernakulam. Although the Gokhale Commission has made no special recommendations about the workmen of the foreign oil companies at Ernakulam, some general recommendations on possible measures for ensuring greater job security in the foreign oil companies have, however, been made by the Commission. As these involved fresh legislation covering all industries, including the oil industry, certain proposals in this behalf have been circulated for comments to the various interests concerned. Comments from some are still awaited. Further action can be taken after the views of all concerned are available.

**Setting up of an Explosives Factory at Hirakud in Orissa**

4901 **SHRI DEVENDRA SATPATHY.**

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are considering the establishment of an Explosive Factory in the Public Sector,

(b) whether there was a proposal for the location of an Explosive Factory at Hirakud in Orissa,

(c) whether Government are aware that some amount was spent in 1962-63 by the Government of Orissa on the construction of roads and buildings as per the decision of the Government of India, Ministry of Defence, for the location of the Factory at Hirakud, and

(d) if so, whether the decision is still valid ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES  
(SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) Yes  
Sir

(b) No, Sir

(c) and (d) Do not arise

#### Deposits of Minerals in Indian Ocean

4902 SHRI M SATYANARAYAN  
RAO Will the Minister of STEEL AND  
MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether Indian Oceanic survey  
ships with the help of Russian scientists,  
have discovered the presence of large de-  
posits of different minerals on the floor  
of the Indian Ocean and

(b) if so the particulars of the de-  
posits found there and the programme of  
prospecting them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES  
(SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) and  
(b) Under the International Indian  
Ocean Expedition (1960-65), in which  
Indian Scientists from various institutions  
including Geological Survey of India also  
participated, Soviet ships surveyed exten-  
sive areas of Indian ocean leading to the  
discovery of Manganese nodules scattered  
over approximately 10 million square kilo-  
meters of abyssal areas of the ocean

Marine geological explorations are  
being conducted by the Geological Survey  
of India independently as part of their  
regular programme and this is not with  
the help from U S S R

Early studies by Geological Survey of  
India indicated the presence of barium  
nodules off the west coast and of phos-  
phatic nodules off the Andamans Recent  
studies by the Marine Geology Unit of  
the Geological Survey of India set up in

1965 have indicated about 16 crore tonnes  
of calcareous sands in two lagoons in the  
Laccadive Islands. A reconnaissance of the  
phosphatic occurrences off the Andamans  
has also been carried out

A programme for geological survey and  
exploration of the entire continental  
margin of the country has been prepared  
and it is proposed to collect data and sam-  
ples on cruise tracks totalling 26,000 km  
and traversing the entire continental margin  
of the country To expedite offshore mine-  
ral exploration, the Geological Survey of  
India has also a proposal to procure a ship  
especially designed for off shore mineral  
exploration from Indian shipyards during  
the 4th plan

#### Setting up of 'Operation Hardrock' Pro- ject with United States Collaboration

4903 SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA  
SHRI JADEJA

Will the Minister of STEEL AND  
MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether a project called "Operation  
Hardrock" was undertaken a few years ago  
with U S collaboration

(b) whether its failure has necessitated  
the current French aided project for  
aerial survey for non-ferrous metals,  
and

(c) the extent, if any, to which the  
results of such expensive projects are actu-  
ally being exploited for the country's bene-  
fit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES  
(SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) Yes,  
Sir

(b) No, Sir The 'Operation Hardrock'  
was taken up with a view to have  
a multi-instrument airborne geophysical  
survey using electro magnetic, magnetic  
and spectrometer instruments over a