

Silting of sand by flood of river Sankha

2071. SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps Government have taken to protect the lands of people in the periphery area of Mahindra Dam from silting of sand caused by the floods of river Sankha during 1971; and

(b) whether there is a danger of river Sankha changing its course, if sufficient measures are not taken from right now to check it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) (a): and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Central Board of Trustees of E.P.F.

2072. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Board of Trustees of Employees Provident Fund is a tripartite body comprising the employees, employers and Central as well as State Government representatives;

(b) whether the decisions taken by the Central Board of Trustees are again examined by Government; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : [(a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The provisions of the Employees' Provident Fund and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 and the Employees' Provident Fund and Employees' Family Pension Schemes framed thereunder specify clearly the powers of the Central Board of Trustees, the powers exercisable by the Central Government and also the powers

to be exercised by an appropriate Government as defined in the Act. The decisions taken by the Central Board of Trustees are referred to Central Government for their approval where necessary in terms of the provisions of Act and the schemes thereunder.

Soviet Delegations

2073. SHRI S.D. SOMASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Soviet Delegations which visited India during April, 1971—February, 1972 ;

(b) the composition of these Delegations; and

(c) the purpose of their visits and the results achieved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Survey of Bauxite Deposits in Kerala

2074. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN KADANNAPPALLI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the survey of bauxite deposits in Nileswaram area of Kerala; and

(b) the steps taken for its commercial exploitation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) As a result of investigations conducted by Geological Survey of India, four blocks have been delineated for detailed investigations for bauxite in the Nileswar area of Cannanore district in Kerala. Drilling has been completed in Block-I and taken