

- (i) Allotment of land for cultivation and house sites;
- (ii) Preference to be given to the Ex-servicemen and their children for recruitment in civil posts;
- (iii) Supply of books free of cost and fee concessions to the children of Ex-servicemen;
- (iv) Adequate representation may be provided to Ex-servicemen in Government forums and local bodies;
- (v) Reservation of Bus Routes;
- (vi) Opening of a defence Industrial Establishment in Chittoor District for providing employment opportunities to the ex-servicemen and their children.

These matters are under examination in consultation with the State Government.

Working of Agnigundala Lead and Copper Mines

4354. SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the scheduled pace of progress is being maintained in Agnigundala Lead/Copper Mines in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (b) if so, the progress achieved so far?

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

(b) At Bandalamottu Lead Deposit the total progress for the mine entries is about 1330 M against the total work of about 1500 M. In addition, a progress of about 700 M has also been achieved in mine development work. At the Nallakonda Mine the progress for the mine entries is 124 M against the total work of 144 M. The progress of mine development is about 55 M.

Import of Blue Prints of Defence equipments

4355. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in regard to the manufacture of heavy defence equipment in the country, India is still dependent on foreign countries for the import of blue prints;

(b) to what extent the Ministry has to depend on foreign assistance; and

(c) what steps are taken to gain self-sufficiency in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c) Perhaps the intention of the Hon'ble Member is to enquire about manufacture of guns and tanks in India 75 24 Howitzers (Mountain Gun), based on indigenous design and development, are already being manufactured in the country. 105 mm. Indian Field Gun, indigenously designed and developed, is also going to be manufactured shortly. There are, however, no plans at present to manufacture heavier guns. Medium tanks are already being manufactured in India.

We are by and large self-sufficient in the matter of technology for manufacture of these equipment. However, if any gap is discovered in view of the latest advances made elsewhere in technology and it cannot be covered by our own Research and Development Organisation, an attempt is made to acquire it on the best possible terms.

Machinery to Dovetail Civil Production in Private Sector with Defence Production Units

4356. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any machinery is available to dovetail civil production