

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) and (b). The State Government of U.P. has sent a report in respect of first phase of Mineral Survey being carried out by them in collaboration with the UNDP in Sonrai area of Lalitpur District. The investigations conducted so far, have revealed copper mineralisation and some lead-zinc bodies have also been discovered, though not economically workable at present. Gold traces are also reported. The second phase of the investigations, involving more detailed work, will take about another two years or so and so it is too early to say whether these finds will prove to be economically viable. The State Government has been assured of all possible help needed from the Central agencies in carrying out further investigations.

Steel Stockyards

582. **SHRI S. R. DAMANI:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to set up steel stockyards has been implemented to facilitate distribution;

(b) if so, the main features of their location, quantities of stock and cost of administration;

(c) whether this system has met with adverse reaction of the consumers and if so, the nature of their objections; and

(d) the manner in which Government propose to meet them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) Producers' stockyards have already been functioning in all important steel consuming centres. It has been decided to use them for handling larger quantities of steel. Accordingly in important locations handling

facilities have been increased with more space and equipment.

(b) Producers' stockyards are located in 23 centres viz:

Bombay, Delhi, Madras, Calcutta, Kanpur, Jullundur, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Dhanbad, Bhubaneshwar, Gauhati, Patna, Bilai, Rourkela, Indore, Kota, Coimbatore, Cochin, Srinagar, Vijayawada, Nagpur, Allahabad.

These stockyards of producers are 34 in number and are holding approximately 200,000 tonnes of iron and steel stock which represents one month's sale of these yards. Their costs consist mainly of handling expenses, land rent and Railway Charges.

(c) The main objection is from those consumers who had hitherto been getting supplies directly from the plants and to whom supplies will now be routed through the yards as per the new distribution policy.

(d) Bulk movement of steel has necessarily to be undertaken to achieve optimum utilization of Railway wagon capacity and prompt movement of steel from the steel plants. This has mainly resulted in larger quantities of steel being handled by the stockyards. Interests of all the consumers have been kept in view in the new distribution policy.

Presence of American and Russian Naval Bases and Navies in Indian Ocean

583. **SHRI SAMAR GUHA:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the facts about the presence of American and Russian Navies and naval bases in the area of Indian Ocean; and

(b) the reaction of Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) According to information available to the Government of India there are no Soviet naval bases in the Indian Ocean.

As regards the United States, US naval and military facilities are known to exist at North-West Cape (Australia), Asmara (Ethiopia), Diego Garcia, Bahrain, and Mahe (Seychelles).

According to a statement by a spokesman of the US Department of Defence on November 7, 1974, a task force of the 7th Fleet, consisting of the aircraft carrier, CONSTELLATION, 3 destroyers and a fast supply ship have recently entered the Indian Ocean.

(b) The introduction of naval task forces of the great powers and similar military escalation will create tension and rivalries in the Indian Ocean and thus endanger peace and tranquility in the area. The Government of India are therefore opposed to such developments.

Police Firing at Refugees in Mana and Raigarh Transit Camps

584. SHRI SAMAR GUHA:
SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether police resorted to firing upon the former East Pakistan refugees in transit camps in Mana, Raigarh and other areas; if so the facts thereabout; and

(b) the other facts regarding the casualties occurred due to police firing and the background reasons for the trouble?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKAT-SWAMY): (a) and (b). Recently two incidents have occurred in Mana and Tawa Group of Camps in which the

police was forced to open fire. In the first case, on the night of 7/8th September, 1974 there was some trouble due to group rivalries among the migrants living in Mana Camp. A Police Patrol Party was attacked and a CRP Inspector was stabbed. 45 Policemen, 2 Police Officers, a magistrate and the Chief Commandant, Mana, were injured. The police had to open fire in self defence. Due to the firing, 12 persons were injured and 3 died. Later on, the number of deaths rose to 5. A Magisterial inquiry is reported to have been ordered by the District Magistrate Raipur. The situation is under control.

In the second incident, migrants attempted to gherao the Officers of Department of Rehabilitation, of the State Government and of the Camps on 28th September, 1974 and some of the Officers and Camp Commandant were manhandled. Consequently, the District Magistrate took over the charge of the situation. 27 Officers including the camp Commandant and several policemen sustained injuries and a few Government vehicles were damaged. The police had to open fire in self-defence and to save life and property. According to reports received subsequently, 2 persons were killed. The situation is under control. A Magisterial Inquiry into the incident is reported to have been ordered by the District Magistrate.

Rehabilitation of Refugees

585. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether continued unsettled conditions of the refugees in different camps for years is the root cause of refugee rehabilitation problems;

(b) the break-up of the latest figures of East Pakistan refugees in different Camps; and

(c) the plan for rehabilitation of these refugees and the time schedule for its implementation?