

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS):** (a) to (c). Following the agreement reached between the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan in May this year in Islamabad, diplomatic relations were resumed from the 24th July 76. It was also agreed to restore the severed communication links between the two countries. Accordingly, an agreement on rail links was signed on 28th June, and another on air links and overflights was signed on 16th July this year.

In regard to China, in pursuance of the announcement on the 15th April this year in the Lok Sabha about the decision to restore the representation in each others' capitals to the ambassadorial level, India's Ambassador to China presented his credentials in Peking on 24th July 1976. It is understood that China's Ambassador to India would be in position in Delhi shortly.

These developments are in keeping with our consistent policy to improve and strengthen bilateral relations with all our neighbours in order to promote the cause of peace and stability in the Asian region.

Visit to London by Shri Hitendra Desai

412. **SHRI D. K. PANDA:**  
**SHRI R. S. BHURA:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shri Hitendra Desai had paid a visit to London recently;

(b) if so, the gist of experiences gained during his visit especially to Southall;

(c) whether a section of Indians in Britain are trying to distort the Indian image; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS):** (a) Shri Hitendra Desai visited Britain from 6th June to 16th June 1976.

(b) He met a large number of people of the Indian community, explained the current situation in India and the great gains the country has made. He addressed a number of meetings and also visited Southall on June 14 where he met the representatives and leaders of various sections of the Indian community. Shri Desai's visit was welcomed by the Indian community in general.

(c) Yes, Sir. These are mostly communalists and extremists.

(d) Government has made efforts and will continue to endeavour to explain to the Indian community abroad the situation in India in proper perspective in order to remove their misunderstandings.

**Copper Deposits in Mayurbhanj District of Orissa**

413. **SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge deposits of copper have been struck in Mayurbhanj District of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the quantity struck and its economic utility?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD):** (a) and (b). No, Sir. Only a small deposit of 1.66 million tonnes of reserve, with around 1.59 per cent copper on average, has, so far, been located by the Geological Survey of India in Kasarpur area of Mayurbhanj District.