

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Yes.

श्री क० ना० तिवारी : अभी मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि जब लड़के किसी एक विषय में फेल हो जाते हैं तो उनको सप्लीमेंटरी परीक्षा का चांस दिया जाता है और उसके पहले ही उनको आगे के क्लास में भरती कर लिया जाता है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह पद्धति सभी प्रान्तों में लागू है या केवल कुछ प्रान्तों में ही ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : जी नहीं, यह सब जगह लागू नहीं है। कहीं कहीं है।

Coal in Garo Hills

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*333. { **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shri Warrior:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1400 on the 3rd April, 1963 and state:

(a) the action since taken by the National Coal Development Corporation in response to the Assam Government's request to undertake exploration and mining of coal in the Garo Hills; and

(b) whether the overall economics of production of coal in the Garo Hills region has been studied and if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Alagesan): (a) An area of 2,220 acres of land in West Darrangiri has been notified under the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act of 1957. The National Coal Development Corporation expects to commence drilling operations in this area soon after the monsoons viz. by about mid-October, 1963. In the meantime, the State Government has been requested to take action for the im-

provement of roads, bridges and culverts in this area to facilitate transport of machinery to the site.

(b) The overall economics will be known only after sufficient prospecting data is available, and a Project Report has been prepared.

Shri P. C. Borooah: Has the Assam Government been able to provide funds necessary for construction of roads for developing the coal-bearing areas in Derrangiri? If not, will the National Coal Development Corporation or the Central Government come to its rescue with funds for the purpose?

Shri Alagesan: My information is that the Assam Government has undertaken to construct these roads and make them pucca, with bridges etc. and to strengthen them.

Shri P. C. Borooah: Does the prospecting done by the Geological Survey of India reveal that there is a large deposit of coal in the area? If so, what is the estimated quantity?

Shri Alagesan: Prospecting in respect of one mine with a production programme of 0.25 million tons is expected to be completed in a year's time. Then only the project report will be ready. And thereafter, a second mine also is proposed to be taken up.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: May I know whether any survey has been made about the prospects of raising coal in this area, and if so, what is the estimated stock and the varieties of coal?

Shri Alagesan: I partly answered this question before. It is too early to say. Only after this prospecting has been done and the project reports prepared, we shall be able to get an idea of the reserves.

Shri Swell: In the prospecting proposed in this area and in making pre-

parations for its exploitation, have the views of the District Council of Garo Hills been taken into consideration, or have they been consulted?

Shri Alagesan: I have no information to answer that question whether the District Council of Garo Hills was consulted or not. Originally, it was the Assam Government that wanted to prospect in this area through their State Electricity Board. Then they asked the NCDC to do it. We have agreed to it.

Royalty on Bauxite

*334. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 906 on the 17th April, 1963 and state:

(a) the nature of the proposals made by the Madhya Pradesh Government with regard to the royalty on bauxite;

(b) whether the proposals have been finally accepted;

(c) whether the rates of royalty are uniform in all the States; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). The proposal made by the Government of Madhya Pradesh in respect of varying the present rate of royalty on bauxite has been examined along with the proposals received from the other State Governments and the revised rates of royalty will be announced shortly.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: The Minister said, if I heard him aright, that this proposal made by the Madhya Pradesh Government for revising the rate of royalty on bauxite was examined along with the proposals made by other State Governments. Is the House to understand

that the other States also made similar proposals with regard to bauxite or other minerals? If it is other minerals, how can this be lumped with the proposal for other minerals?

Shri Alagesan: The question relates to royalty on bauxite.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Bauxite only.

Shri Alagesan: I do not have the various recommendations of the other State Governments with me, but their recommendations were with reference to bauxite.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: May I know when exactly the Madhya Pradesh Government made this proposals, how many months ago, and for how long Government have been sitting over it, sitting pretty I mean, and not coming to a decision?

Shri Alagesan: At present I am not able to mention the date on which the Madhya Pradesh Government made this recommendation. They wanted the royalty to be raised from five to seven and half per cent. Then, this question was considered at a meeting of the Mineral Advisory Board held in May, 1962 at Srinagar. Then there was a discussion between the Central Government and the various State Governments and also private interests, and then certain conclusions were arrived at. Now, they will be notified shortly.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: On a point of order, Sir. It is amazing the Minister has said that he does not know when the proposal was made. Either there is something wrong with the files, or he has not been grieved properly by his Secretariat.

Shri Alagesan: I said I did not have the information just now. I am prepared to give the information.

Mr. Speaker: Can anything amazing be a subject for a point of order?