

(ख) और (ग). राष्ट्रीय खनिज विकास निगम लिमिटेड ने दरिबा तांबा निक्षेपों के विकास के लिए एक प्रायोजना रिपोर्ट तैयार की थी। रिपोर्ट की सरकार द्वारा जांच की गई थी और प्रायोजना की व्यवहार्यता के सम्बन्ध में कुछ संकाएं उत्पन्न हो गईं। हिन्दुस्तान कापर लिमिटेड को (जिन्होंने इस योजना को अब अपने अधिकार में लिया है) यह सुझाया गया था कि प्रायोजना को वास्तविक रूप से व्यवहार्य बनाने के लिए और आगे समन्वेषण कार्य आवश्यक होगा। यह बात हिन्दुस्तान कापर लिमिटेड के विचाराधीन है।

(घ) 4 नियमित तकनीकी कर्मचारी ; 8 कुशल, 19 अर्ध-कुशल और 14 अकुशल मजदूर दैनिक भत्ते पर काम में लगाये हुए हैं।

#### Distribution of Indane Gas Agencies in Uttar Pradesh

2340. SHRI NARAIN SWARUP SHARMA :  
SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI :  
SHRI SURAJ BHAN :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 'Indane Gas' agencies are likely to be distributed in certain Western Districts of Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) the details of applications received, district-wise, and the criteria being adopted in the disposal of those applications ; and

(c) the steps being taken to check malpractices on this account ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS, AND MINES AND METALS (DR. TRIGUNA SEN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). It is not in the commercial interest of the Indian Oil Corporation to disclose the details of the applications received.

Selection of Indane distributorship is made on the recommendations of a Selection Committee. This committee is required to screen and inspect the facilities

of the applicants. The criteria laid down for selection include adequate existing show room in commercial locality, godown, transport, telephone, financial stability, local reputation, ability to offer personal attention to business, high standard of individualised quick customer service; nature of existing business etc. The recommendations of the Selection Committee are considered and approved in the Marketing Division at the highest level.

#### Demand of Copper

2341. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated demand of copper by the year 1973-74 and the steps taken to meet it by internal production ;

(b) the present capacity of the Hindustan Copper Ltd., and the time by which the projects will commence fully rated capacity production ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission have recommended to enter into equity participation with developing countries for development of copper and preparation of concentrates ; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the details of negotiations with foreign parties, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS, AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI JAGANATH RAO) : (a) The Planning Group on Non-ferrous metals has estimated the demand of copper to be 1,24,000 tonnes by 1973-74.

At present there is only one unit in the country engaged in the production of copper viz. M/s. Indian Copper Corporation in the private sector. Its production capacity is 9,600 tonnes per annum. This unit has been licensed to expand production to 16,500 tonnes. This is likely to materialise by 1970-71.

M/s. Hindustan Copper Ltd., a public sector undertaking, is developing copper deposits at Khetri in Rajasthan for the production of 31,000 tonnes of electrolytic copper metal per annum (21,000 tonnes from the mine at Khetri and 10,000 tonnes from the nearby mine at Kolihan). They

also contemplate to develop copper deposits at Rakha in Bihar and copper-lead deposits in Agnigundala in Andhra Pradesh. But after all this also there would be a considerable gap between indigenous availability and requirement of copper which will have to be met by imports.

(b) The Khetri Copper Project is still in the construction stage. It is expected to commence production of concentrates by 1970-71 and to achieve full production of copper metal by 1972-73.

(c) and (d). In the Report of Planning Group on Non-Ferrous Metals, there is a recommendation for Indian equity participation with developing/under developed countries having copper ore reserves for the development of copper etc. No specific proposal for such participation has, however, been received in the Planning Commission. As such, there have been no negotiations at Government level so far.

#### Growth of Corporate Sector

2342. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have carried out a survey of the results of the working of the corporate sector of the Indian economy in 1967-68 ;

(b) if so, the findings thereof ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the growth rate in this sector has fallen from 25.8 per cent in 1966-67 to 13.3 per cent in 1967-68 ; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps which Government propose to take to help this very vital sector of the country's economy ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) Information on the working of the corporate sector during 1967-68 is not yet available with Government.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

#### Collections Through Small Savings Scheme

2343. SHRI S. R. DAMANI :  
SHRI MANGALATHU-  
MADAM :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the collection made during the

current year through the small savings scheme and how they compare with last year's figures ;

(b) whether collections in rural areas have shown an improvement and if so to what extent and steps taken to maintain the present tempo in the small savings ;

(c) whether the State Governments' lotteries are creating a set-back to the working of this scheme ; and

(d) if so, whether Government can issue a directive to State Governments to stop lotteries ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) Net Small Savings collections in the current financial year upto the end of December, 1968 have been of the same order as in the corresponding period last year, viz, Rs. 48 crores.

(b) Separate figures of collections in rural areas are not available. However, the fact that the collections in the Post Office Savings Bank have been higher by Rs. 5 crores this year would indicate that rural savings this year have been better.

Special campaigns have been taken up on a selective basis in rural areas in co-operation with the Panchayat Administrations especially for encouraging the opening of savings accounts in the Post Office Savings Bank. A large number of branch offices in villages have also been given Savings Bank powers to make it possible for rural savers to open accounts near their homes. It is expected that as a result of these steps rural Small Savings would go up further.

(c) and (d) It is difficult to say whether the lotteries conducted by State Governments have affected the Small Savings collections.

#### Public Provident Fund Scheme

2344. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) the progress made with regard to the working of the Public Provident Fund Scheme ;

(b) the total deposits up-to-date since its inception and the administrative expenditure incurred for running the scheme ; and