

**New Mines**

710. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of STEEL & MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of new mines where work has been started during the current financial year, State-wise; and

(b) the name of the deposits of different materials found therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS): (a) The details of new mines, State-wise opened in the current financial year 1998-99 (as available with Indian Bureau of Mines on 22.2.1999) is given in the attached statement.

(b) The name of minerals which are found in these mines are bauxite, calcite, chalk, chinaclay, diaspore, dolomite, felspar, firclay, gypsum, laterite, limestone, manganese ore magnesite, mica, moulding sand, ochre, pyrophyllite, quartz, qartzite, selenite, sillica sand, soapstone/steatite, yellow ochre and white shale.

**Statement**

*State-wise details of new mines opened in the current financial year 1998-99 (as on 22.2.99)*

State	No. of Mines
Andhra Pradesh	19
Gujarat	8
Karnataka	2
Kerala	2
Madhya Pradesh	21
Maharashtra	1
Rajasthan	10
Tamil Nadu	15
Total	78

**Import of Rubber**

711. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the projected production and demand of raw rubber in the country during 1999-2000;

(b) whether the Government propose to import rubber during 1999-2000; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE): (a) The production and demand of Natural Rubber in the country during 1999-2000 is estimated at 6,27,000 MT and 6,24,000 MT respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Labourers of Mills**

712. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the labourers of the public and private sector mills are not made permanent because they are treated as absent from duty after every three months;

(b) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to discontinue such practice; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) As far as public sector textile mills are concerned, the practice of treating the workers as absent from duty after three months is not prevalent. No complaints have been received from the labourers of private sector mills alleging that they are not made permanent because they are treated as absent from duty after three months.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

**State Financial Corporations**

713. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: