

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:

(a) whether the Union Government are taking any steps to have financial restructuring of 'C' Category State Financial Corporation, as mostly these State Financial Corporations have been instrumental in promoting small and medium industries in the States;

(b) whether proposals of many weak State Financial Corporations for financial restructuring are lying with IDBI for decision of recapitalisation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the decision on these proposals is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) State Financial Corporations Act, 1951 is proposed to be amended to enable the State Financial Corporations (SFCs) to enlarge their shareholder base, provide SFCs with greater functional autonomy and operational flexibility and consequent ability to respond to the needs of changing financial system. These proposed amendments would enable SFCs to undertake financial restructuring, if required.

(b) to (d) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that no workable proposal from any of the SFCs is lying pending with IDBI for decision of recapitalisation.

[*Translation*]

Revival of Katihar Jute Mill

714. SHRI SHAKUNI CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 3398 dated December 18, 1998 regarding jute mill at Katihar and state the reasons for not reviving the Katihar Jute Mill which is lying closed since December, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): Government of India had constituted a study group in 1984 for examining the proposal of vesting

Katihar Jute Mill Ltd. in NJMC. The study group rejected the proposal as it was not economically viable. Subsequently a meeting was held in January, 1991 and it was decided that NJMC would take lease of this unit and the State Govt., would declare KJML as a relief undertaking, waive electricity dues, freeze prior wage liability, arrear of employers dues to be paid in instalment from sales tax and other subsidies allowed by the State Govt. However, since the Govt. of Bihar have not spelt out the package of relief no further action could be taken by NJMC in the matter.

[*English*]

Training Centres of C.S.B.

715. SHRI A. SIDDARAJU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Training Centres of Central Silk Board are functioning in the country, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) whether the Government are aware that Chamarajanagar is one of the places in Karnataka where sericulture is the main occupation;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to set up Training Centre of Central Silk Board in Chamarajanagar;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) A statement is attached.

(b) to (e) Yes, Sir. To cater to the training needs of this area the Government of Karnataka has a full-fledged Sericulture Training School at Kuderu in Chamarajanagar district. In addition, the Central Silk Board Regional Sericulture Research Station at Chamarajanagar has been conducting adhoc training courses like Capsule Training Course, Refresher Training Course etc. to train the staff from Department of Sericulture in Karnataka and farmers in recently developed technologies. In view of the above, the Central Government does not propose to set up a separate training centre of Central Silk Board in Chamarajanagar.