

Details of crew and civilians killed while Operating on 'Operation Meghdoot'

| Date | Place of Accident | Number of Crew Members Killed | Number of Civillians Killed |
|-----------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 26 Aug 96 | Hoshiar Dz | 6 | - |
| 02 Jul 97 | Base Camp | 2 | - |

Statement-II

Compensation paid to the Civilians

| Name of the Civilian | Amount Paid (in Rs.) |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Late Smt Chandravati | 63,668/- |
| Late Master Sudesh Mohan | 85,000/- |
| Late Katakam Rukkamma | 99,000/- |
| Kumari Monika | 50,000/- |
| Master Shiv Kumar | 25,000/- |
| Late Smt Puri Behan Late Mr. Akuba Singh Jadeja Prabhu Sahai | Compensation Claim not Yet received |
| Miss Savita | 42,000/- Claim Sent to Govt. |

Threat of Drought in Maharashtra

1385. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Maharashtra has been facing the threat of drought ;

(b) If so, the details thereof ; and

(c) The measures taken/proposed to be taken up in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Mineral Reserves in Bihar

1386. SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Geological Survey of India has conducted any survey to explore minerals in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or contemplated to exploit these minerals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL & MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI) has conducted exploration for minerals in the State of Bihar.

(b) The minerals explored are as follows :-

BAUXITE : Bagrupat, Dudha Pat, Dipakujam, Armtipani etc. in Ranchi, Lohardaga & Palamu districts.

COPPER-LEAD-ZINC : Singhbhum Copper belt, Dhobani, Kanyaluka, Musabani, Pathorgora, Surda, Rakha, Kharswan, etc. in Singhbhum district, Biharbari, Charkipahari, Pindara etc. in Banka, Deoghar Jamui districts.

GOLD: Kundarkochoa, Pahardta, Ankua, Lawa, Mysera, Barunia, Rudiya and Taramba in Singhbhum district. Babaikundi in Ranchi district, Sithaura in Nalanda district, Sono in Jamaui district.

IRON-ORE: Noamundi, Jamda, Qua in Singhbhum district, Sua, Bibahathan etc. in Palamu district.

COAL: Jharia, coalfield, E. Bokaro, W. Bokaro, North & South Karanpura coalfield, Ramgarh Coalfield, Giridih coalfield, Auranga coalfield, Daltonganj coalfield, Nutar coalfield.

APATITE: Nandup, Pathorgora, Sungri, etc. in Singhbhum district.

ASBESTOS: Roro, Kalimati, Bichaburu, Nurda, Gitilata etc. in Singhbhum district.

FELDSPAR: Gawan, Dhab, Saphitola etc. in Giridih and Nawada districts.

FIRE CLAY: Jharia Coalfield, Bokaro coalfield, North & South Karnpura coalfield, Daltonganj & Hutar coalfield.

GRAPHITE: Khamdip, Bhang, Parasia, Marowar, Korrum, Tongari, Lat, etc. in Palamu district.

KYNATITE: Dapsaburu, Schiraidungri etc. in Singhbhum district.

LIMESTONE: Jaradag, Ramdhira, etc. in Rohtas district Bhaunathpur in Carhwa district.

MICA: Dhas, Gawan, Tisri, Bindro etc. in Bihar Mica Belt of Kodarma and Giridih districts.

TIN: Pihra & Nurungo in Giridih district & Paharsingha in Ranchi district.

VERMICULITE: Jaled in Chatra district and Kubri in Giridih district.

LEPODOLITE: Pihra and Bhuladih in Firidih & Kodarma district.

PARYITE: Kolpatka, Pradhanpali, Dharapal in Singhbhum district and Singhitali area in Garhwa district.

ARSENIC: Dabar, Dhab and Saphitala in Kodarma, Giridih and Nawada districts.

DIAMOND: Sima in Palamau district, Sankh River basin in Gumla district.

(c) Any Indian National or a Company as defined in sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Companies Act, 1956 is free to exploit the mineral reserves after getting mining lease in accordance with the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957 and Rules framed thereunder.

[English]

Dumping of Steel by Foreign Companies

1387. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Steel Industry is facing serious crisis these days due to dumping of steel by the foreign companies; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard so as to save the Indian Steel Industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) Indian Steel Industry is facing competition on account of imports from CIS countries. An anti-dumping petition was filed by M/s. SAIL and M/s. ESSAR Steel Ltd., on behalf of the domestic steel producers with the Designated Authority in the Ministry of Commerce under the provisions of the Customs Tariff Act, alleging dumping of HR Coils/ Sheets/ Plates from Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan. The petition is supported by other major steel producers like TISCO and Lloyd steel. The initiation notification was issued by Ministry of Commerce on 6.10.97. Preliminary findings of the Designated Authority are expected shortly.

With the increase in the customs duties announced in the budget 1998-99 it is expected that import of iron and steel will decrease.

Unemployment Problem In A & N Islands

1388. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of serious unemployment problem prevailing in Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(b) if so, the details of various employment schemes sponsored by the Union Government in regard thereto and the achievements made thereunder?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) Keeping in view the urban unemployment problem in the country, including A&N Islands, the Union Government has launched the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY), which replaced the earlier Nehru Rojgar Yojna (NRY) and Prime Minister's integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP), w.e.f. 01.12.97, seeking to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed or under employed, living below the poverty line through encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures or provision of wage employment.

The Union Government has released the following amounts to A&N Island for the Urban employment components of its schemes so far:

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| (i) NRY | (from 1989 till 30.11.97) | Rs. 42.21 lakh |
| (ii) PMIUPEP | (from 1995 till 30.11.97) | Rs. 94.85 lakh |
| (iii) SJSRY | (from 1.12.97.....) | Rs. 67.16 lakh |

[Translation]

Increase in Price of Steel

1389. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state;

(a) the reasons for the increase in price of steel and its likely effect on the production and demand thereof;

(b) whether the Government are considering to reduce the prices of the products of SAIL, ESSAR, TISCO and any other private steel company; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) After the decontrol of steel in Jan.1992, the demand, production and price of steel are driven by market forces. Government has no role to play in pricing of steel produced by the main producers. Secondary producers were free to fix their own prices even prior to 1992. The open market prices of steel have not shown any drastic increase in the past one year. The reason being that the market is unable to sustain the high cost of steel.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Rail-Bus Accident

1390. PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Government regarding rail-bus accident which took place at Arjuni Morgaon, Maharashtra during February, 1998;