

(a) whether the Government have recently finalised any Action Plan for the export of minerals;

(b) if so, the salient features of the said Action Plan and the policy adopted while preparing it;

(c) the names of minerals which have been given top priority in exports; and

(d) the names of the countries from which the Government have received demand for these minerals?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has finalised an Action Plan for export of important minerals, such as, iron ore, manganese ore. Chrome ore, mica etc. For 1998-99, the target has been placed at about 20 per cent of the actual export achieved during the last year, The salient features of the Action Plan include :

(i) identification of new markets viz; Middle East, East Europe, CIS etc. in addition to expansion of existing markets, such as China, Japan, South Korea etc.

(ii) Conclusion of long term contracts for assured exports;

(iii) Improved handling, facilities at ports for iron ore etc.

(c) The following minerals have been given top priority in exports :

(i) Iron Ore

(ii) Chrome Ore

(iii) Manganese Ore

(iv) Mica Scrap

(d) Given the trade practices, demands are not placed on the Government. However, some of the major importing countries are Japan, South Korea, Pakistan, China, Romania etc.

[English]

Export of Iron Ore

3473. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the Iron Ore exported to different countries during the last three years;

(b) the quantity exported, country wise and year, wise; and

(c) the share of Goa in this export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) Sir, total Ore exported in the last three years is as follows :

(Qty. in Lakh tonnes)

	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98 (Prov.)
Total	317.2	276.3	276.6

Iron Ore exported to different countries in each of the last three years is given in the statement.

(c) Share of Goa in total exports of India during the last three years is as follows :

	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98 (Prov.)
	47.8%	50.1%	53.4%

Statement

(Quantity in Lakh tonnes)

Countries	1995-96 Quantity	1996-97 Quantity	1997-98 (Prov.) Quantity
Australia	3.2	1.2	6.5
Bangladesh	-	1.1	
Belgium	2.8	1.9	3.3
Chad	-	0.6	-
Chinese Tipei	4.0	7.0	14.2
China (Rep.)	39.1	32.4	55.7
France	-	2.2	3.7
Germany	-	-	1.2
Indonesia	2.7	5.3	0.4
Iran	18.4	13.1	14.8
Italy	11.5	0.2	4.7
Japan	174.7	141.4	143.3
Korea (Rep.)	27.7	34.5	7.1
Netherland	7.3	7.2	7.6
Pakistan	3.6	2.2	4.4

[Translation]

Workshops to SCs/STs by DSSIDC

3474. PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the persons belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe have been allotted workshops by Delhi Small Scale Industries Development Corporation according to the quota laid down for them;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the total number of workshops allotted so far and the number of workshops allotted to the persons belonging to the Scheduled Tribes out of it?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) and (b) The Corporation is providing a combined reservation of 15% of the total sheds/plots/workspaces allotted by it to SC/ST applicants since 1990.

(c) Total number of sheds/plots/work-space allotted by the Corporation so far and the combined allotment made to SC/ST applicants are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement showing the position of sheds/plots work spaces allotted by the Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. Since 1990.

S. No.	Industrial Complex	No. of Sheds/Plots/Workspaces allotted	No. of sheds Allotted to SC/ST
1.	Narela Industrial Complex-plots	1800	270
2.	Okhla Computer Complex	31	-
3.	Mangolpuri Engg. Complex	94	3
4.	Kirtinagar Packing Complex	216	7
5.	Community Work Centres	2531	694

All India Conference on Official Language of Banks

3475. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether three All India Conferences on Official Language of Banks have been organised but even after the lapse of the several years the Fourth Conference has not yet been commenced; and

(b) if so, the time by which the Fourth Conference on Official Language of Banks is likely to be organised?

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) and (b) Three All India Conferences on Official Language of Banks were organised at Calcutta, Mumbai and Jaipur on 20-21 May, 1988, 15-16 September, 1990 and 14-15 December, 1991 respectively.

An All India Level Official Language Conference of Banks is organised every year by Reserve Bank of India

(RBI) where discussions are held on different subjects pertaining to the implementation of the Official Language Policy of the Government and resolutions are passed. Representatives from all public Sector Banks and Financial Institutions participate in this All India Conference. The objectives of the Official Language Conference proposed in the question are already being achieved by the Official Language Conference organised by RBI every year. However, if required the scope of the Official Language Conference being organised by RBI every year can further be broadened.

[English]

Lignite Reserves in Rajasthan

3476. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that heavy and rich deposits of Lignite have been found near village Caral of Barmer district in Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Government did not take much interest in it and give it to Lignite Corporation;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to take over it and explore on priority; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government is aware of the lignite deposits near village Giral of Barmer District, Rajasthan.

(b) No, Sir. The Central Government took interest in these deposits and advised Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. (NLC) to carry out detailed exploration between March, 1990 and July, 1992.

(c) and (d) Since exploration has already been completed, the Central Government has no plan to further explore it or to take it over.

Transport Subsidy

3477. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of massive bogus transport subsidy claims being preferred by the industrialists in the States of Manipur and Nagaland;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) the total subsidy claimed and released to the North-Eastern States during the last three years;

(d) the reasons for delay in releasing the subsidy; and