

Persons Displaced from Mining Areas

10560. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKATA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total area at present covered under mines;

(b) the planned overall programme to bring more area under mining; and

(c) the number of people displaced during, the three years from areas brought under mining and likely to be displaced in 1990-91?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c). Total area covered under mining leases in the country at present is 9,26,923 hectares.

Bringing new area under mining operations depends on various economic considerations including potentiality of the area and demand for minerals; there is no overall programme in this regard.

Large scale displacement of people in mining areas has not been normally taking place. Some displacement takes place in case of big mining projects which necessitates rehabilitation of the displaced families and such rehabilitation measures are invariably undertaken by the Project Authorities.

Procurement and Export of Iron Ore by MMTC

10561. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the stock of iron ore has been piling up at different iron ore mines;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the MMTC has reduced the procurement as well as export of iron ore; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI AR-ANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) and (b). Some stocks of iron ore piled up in April, 1990 at Bailadila Mines due to delay in nomination of ships for Vizag Port by Japanese Steel Mills due in turn to congestion in Japanese Ports.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Sales outlet of Coffee Board

10562. SHRI H.C. SRIKANTIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sales Outlets of Coffee Board are working Five Days a week in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to introduce six day week for these Sales outlet for the benefit of the public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI AR-ANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. In view of the 5 day week (40 hours) for all employees in the Coffee Board, it will be appreciated that it would not be possible to adopt different norms for the Coffee Board Retail Depots.

Centres of SBI for Foreign Exchange Dealing and cover Operations

10563. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has opened foreign exchange dealing centres at Bombay, Madras and New Delhi and posted dealers over there with a view to decentralise the foreign exchange dealing and cover operations so far centralised at its Foreign Exchange Department Calcutta; and

(b) if so; the details therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b). State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that it has set up Dealing Rooms at Bombay, Madras and New Delhi solely out of commercial necessity and with a view to withstand emerging competition in foreign exchange area from other banks including foreign banks. According to SBI, even after setting up of Dealing Rooms at these centres, foreign exchange work and cover operations continue to be centralised at Foreign Department, Calcutta.

[Translation]

Scheme to Construct Hotels at Hilly Tourist Places

10564. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are formulating any scheme for construction of hotels at various tourist places in hilly areas of the country with a view to provide more accommodation facility to foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to give financial assistance to hotel industry for developing tourist accommodations in hilly areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, With a view to attract investment in hotels at tourist centers in hilly areas, new approved hotels set up in hilly areas above 3000 ft. not having 300 rooms of reasonable standard (3-star and above) would be exempted from expenditure tax for a period of 10 years and also be given 50% exemption from tax under 80-I of the Income Tax Act provided the hotel becomes operational by December 1993.

(c) and (d). Financial Institutions have been set up to provide financial assistance for construction of hotels.

Setting up of a Radio Station at Dharchula in Uttar Pradesh

10565. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that programmes of All India Radio do not reach some border areas of Pithoragarh district in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether Government have received several requests for setting up a radio station at Dharchula for the benefit of the people of that area;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to sanction a radio station there in 1990-91; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Programmes of All India Radio on Medium Wave are not available in the border areas of Pithoragarh district of