

(a) whether Union Government have recently approved investment of Rs. 203.50 crores in the coal sector;

(b) if so, the names of the new coal projects proposed to be taken up with this investment;

(c) whether the above approval includes any underground coal project of Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details of the amount proposed to be spent on the newly approved underground coal mining projects in Madhya Pradesh and also on other projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) to (c). Yes, Sir. During March, 1985, Government have approved a total investment of Rs. 203.50 crores for development of following four new coal projects :

Sl. No.	Name	Location	Investment (Rs. crores)	Capacity (Lakh tonnes)
1.	Silewara	Maharashtra	38.06	10.00
2.	Churcha West	Madhya Pradesh	32.64	6.00
3.	Manuguru II	Andhra Pradesh	132.00	27.50
4.	Manuguru III (Advance Action)	Andhra Pradesh	0.80	4.20
Total :			203.50	47.70

(d) The allocation for the four projects mentioned above is Rs. 8.71 crores in 1985-86.

In Madhya Pradesh, 13 underground projects have been sanctioned by the Government during Sixth Plan and are under implementation. An amount of Rs. 20.20 crores have been earmarked for expenditure on these projects during 1985-86. Besides, there are 10 opencast mining projects sanctioned by the Government during the Sixth Plan which are also under implementation in Madhya Pradesh. For these projects the budget allocation for 1985-86 is Rs. 106.20 crores.

Regional Offices of Nationalised Banks

*611. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the basis on which regional offices of nationalised banks are established;

(b) the number of such regional offices presently functioning in the country;

(c) the number proposed to be opened during the financial year 1985-86, State-wise; and

(d) when such proposals pertaining to Orissa will be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). Regional Offices of nationalised banks are established with a view to providing guidance, monitoring progress and controlling activities of a group of branches. The span of control of Regional Offices generally varies between 40 to 70 branches.

The need for such offices in specific areas is decided by the banks concerned taking into account various criteria like, level of business, area of operation and number of branches. Banks are required to obtain licences from Reserve Bank of India before opening such offices.

According to the information available with the Reserve Bank, at present there are 646 Regional Offices/Area Managers' Offices of public sector banks in the country. It is

difficult to say at this stage as to how many Regional Offices will actually be opened during 1985-86. There is no proposal for a regional office pertaining to Orissa pending for implementation.

Export-Oriented Units for Manufacture of Studded Gold Ornaments and Emerald Processing Units

*612. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to set up export-oriented units for the manufacture of studded gold ornaments and emerald processing units in the country ;

(b) if so, the sites selected for setting up of such units;

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose; and

(d) the foreign exchange likely to be earned from these units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d). The Scheme for setting up Special Export Oriented Complexes for manufacture of gold jewellery for export was notified *vide* Public Notice No. 54-ITC (PA)/84, dated the 12th September, 1984. To start with, the Complexes will be permitted at five centres, viz, Delhi, Jaipur, Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. As these Complexes will be identified by the trade or sponsored by either State Government or a Public Sector enterprise the individual units sharing the expenses on the common facilities, no allocation of funds by the Central Government is involved in setting up these complexes.

Foreign exchange likely to be earned by the export oriented gold jewellery units set up in these Complexes will depend on the actual response of the industry and markets abroad.

The proposal of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation to set up an emerald processing unit in Jaipur is estimated to generate exports equivalent to Rs. 2.5 crores in a year.

Smuggling of Foodgrains to Nepal and Bangladesh

*614. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN :
SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received report(s) of mushroom growth of unscrupulous traders in the border areas indulging in illegal export of rice and other foodgrain items to Nepal and Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the modus operandi of persons involved in smuggling rice and foodgrains to Nepal and Bangladesh; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check proliferation of smugglers in the border areas and/or to check smuggling of rice and foodgrains to Nepal and Bangladesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Reports received by the Government do not indicate mushroom growth of unscrupulous traders in the border areas indulging in illegal export of rice and other foodgrain items to Nepal and Bangladesh, though seizures have been reported.

(c) Small quantities are stored near the border and smuggled out through unauthorised routes and by boat to Nepal and Bangladesh during the night and at odd hours.

(d) The drive against smugglers has been intensified. Appropriate anti-smuggling measures have been taken by the Government to check smuggling activities in general across the land borders. The trend and pattern of smuggling is also kept under constant review and suitable anti-smuggling measures, both short-term and long-term, are taken in close co-ordination with the concerned Central and State Government authorities.

Measures to Deal with Sick Units

*615. SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be