

covered by the public distribution system. Will the Minister take steps to see that the export market is expanded, and that the growers of this rice are benefited?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : We export basmati rice to various countries—in fact, practically to the whole world; but our main market for basmati rice is USSR and middle-east countries. Besides these, there are many countries where we export it—like Latin American countries and Western Europe as well.

As far as expanding the market is concerned, it is our constant endeavour.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : I want to know from the Hon. Minister the reasons for not honouring the export agreement entered into by the State Trading Corporation? What action has been taken against the State Trading Corporation due to which the country's trade has suffered?

[*English*]

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : S.T.C. is exporting basmati rice.

MR. SPEAKER : He says there is some hanky-panky.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : That is about Abu Dhabi, which was raised as the first supplementary—and which I have answered.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question. Shri Saifuddin Chowdhary is not here. Now question 454.

Water Pollution as a Result of Mining of Panchpatimali Bauxite Deposit in Koraput District, Orissa

*454. **SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that due to mining operation of Panchpatimali bauxite deposit in Koraput District; Orissa by National Aluminium Company, the water in river Jhanjabati flowing towards Narayan-Patna is being polluted;

(b) if so, the total population affected thereby;

(c) whether the villages through which the river is flowing are also affected;

(d) whether any survey has been conducted by the National Aluminium Company to make alternative arrangement to save the people from polluted water; and

(e) if so, the measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Sir, like my question No. '454' this is 'PFP'—that is to say, Pollution Free Plant. Anyway, Sir, I agree with the reply. But I would like to know from the Minister whether he has seen the report in the newspapers regarding the pollution due to the mining operation in Panchpatimali. He has stated that according to the presumption, there will be no pollution in the future because of the mining operation at Panchpatimali.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : This is one place where we have taken care to ensure that total environmental protection is given. We have not only consulted foreign experts with whom we have collaboration, especially, of France, for preparing an environmental plan, but we have consulted Engineers India Ltd. and more specifically, NELCO asked the Centre for Environment and Ecology (INCOR) of the Andhra University, Visakhapatnam to take up the

detailed hydrogeological study of the area for assessing the impact of mining on the water regim of the area. This study has brought out that the mining scheme proposed by NALCO will have no impact on the water system in the area. We are taking all possible measures to see that there will be no pollution. Incidentally I may inform the House through you, Sir, that this is not toxic material, Therefore, there is no likelihood of causing pollution in the water.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : My second supplementary is this : My question arises out of the reply given by the Minister. Sir, what is the definition of 'Pollution'? Number one. And, Number two is this : If the Hon. Minister thinks that the clean water is being polluted due to the mining operation and it is not pollution and it is not health hazard, then, the question does not arise and my supplementary also does not arise. The answer also does not arise, Sir.

AN HON. MEMBER : There is no question.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, anything that cause toxicity in the air or in the water will be deemed as pollution. Pollution has this concept. But we are taking care to see that we do not choke our rivers or the Nalas with the debris or the mud or the tailing that we take out from the mining because that choking also will harm the water that the people of the area use. So, that care also we will take. We are giving entire environmental protection. We are taking special care to plant trees. Sir, it is a barren hill, more or less. But we have already planted two lakhs of trees and we will be planting more trees and see that the entire area is properly protected.

Export of Indian Jewellery

***455. SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India is famous for its gold ornaments and gold-studded ornaments;

(b) whether Government have identified the countries which are good paying markets for export of Indian jewellery;

(c) if so, the details of countries to which Indian jewellery is exported; and

(d) the foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Largely to UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain, UK and USA.

(d) Year	Value (Rs. in crores)
1983-84	83.38
1984-85	85.75

SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that India is facing stiff competition from other countries in the field of exporting of gold ornaments. If so, what are the steps taken to meet this challenge?

SHRI P.A. SANGMA : Sir, we have recently taken a number of steps to increase our export of gold jewellery. In the beginning we did have some problem because, as the Hon. Members know, it is controlled by the Gold Control Act. Now we have come out with various types of schemes. Under the new scheme, in respect of gold jewellery where the gold content manufactured is only 10 per cent value, we allow the export of gold jewellery without any restriction, and then sale of gold jewellery is permitted in exhibitions organised abroad by HSEC. For those who are participating in the