

(c) whether the Sixth Five Year Plan targets of Geological Survey of India for marine geological survey have been achieved; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) (a) to (d) : A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India has carried out marine geological survey within the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) in the Bay of Bengal off the coasts of Orissa and Bengal, with the help of one vessel and two launches. Incidence of heavy minerals of economic importance has been found in the samples collected from the sea bed during the course of seabed mapping by geological and geophysical surveys. While the research vessel was engaged in cruises in the Exclusive Economic Zone of India, the two research launches were engaged in surveys within the territorial waters of the country. Off Orissa and Bengal coasts an area of 0.111 million sq. km. has been covered by geophysical surveys and 0.041 million sq. km. by geological surveys in EEZ since 1983-84 Field Season and 2985 sq. km. within territorial waters since 1984-85 field season. Of 2985 sq. km. within territorial waters, 2205 sq. km. was surveyed in Gopalpur-Puri Sector during 1984-85 and about 780 sq. km. was surveyed in Puri-Devi river sector during 1985-86. Sandy patch off Gopalpur-Puri coast covering an area of approximate 625 sq. km. between seven and thirty metres water depths, contains heavy minerals of economic importance like ilmenite, garnet, sillimanite, zircon, rutile etc. ranging from 2.18 to 18.00 weight percentage.

(c) and (d) GSI has not only completed but exceeded marine geological survey targets fixed for VIth Five Year Plan. Against a total number of cruises, covering an area of 4.92 lakh sq. kms. (approx.) the research vessel and launches

covered 41 number of cruises, covering an area of 5.36 lakh sq. kms.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : I want to know exactly the minerals found in each sector, in the Puri sector, in the Gopalpur sector and so on. I want to know specifically the minerals found in the different sectors, separately. What are the minerals found in different sectors ?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : During the course of surveys in the coastal water many precious minerals have been located. Ilmenite, monazite, rutile have been located off the Puri Coast in Orissa.

Ilmenite, sillimanite, zircon, rutile and monazite have been located off Gopalpur coast.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Exclusively in the economic zone what are the minerals found ? I want to know the minerals found in the economic zone exclusively. They have not been mentioned. My second question is : Has any attempt been made to exploit the mineral resources in this zone and find out the estimated quantities of minerals and also its economic viability ?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : What I have narrated is about the minerals located in territorial waters and exclusive economic zone where a survey has been made. Details have been given in original statement.

SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY : What about the quantity ?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : In my original statement I have mentioned about the quantity. Samples are processed in Laboratories thereafter the details will be known.

[Translation]

Rate of Agricultural Production in India

*160. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALLA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the discussions held at the recent National Seminar on 'Science for Social Development' organised by the Indian Association of Advancement of Sciences;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken note of the observations made by the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organisation in India that the main reason for lower rate of agricultural production in India is the lack of coordination between the farmers and the Agricultural Research Institutes; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) So far, the recommendations of the Seminar on 'Science for Social Development' have not been received.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : I thought, my turn would not come.

MR. SPEAKER : Should I ask a supplementary ?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the farmer in the country today is facing a serious financial crisis. Therefore, will the Government in all seriousness and sincerity evolve a policy to provide them help so that they could get a remunerative price for their produce ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : We have adopted that policy but the question is not on that.

[*English*]

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Apart from financing the research institutes which they are doing to a very large extent, more than Rs. 100 crores on ICAR and others for agricultural research, how much money they have allocated for extension of the work coming out of the research institutes to the farmers and what do they plan to do in this respect ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : The reports are not available with me. But I can inform the hon. Member that there are extension services in States. There is training and visit service which also works very well in a number of States. There is an Extension Division in my Ministry which also guides through farmer melas, etc. This is all extension work.

SHRI BASAVARAJESWARI : Has it come to the notice of the Government that production of rice as per international standard is much lower in the country as compared to other crops; if so, what steps Government proposes to take to augment the present rice production according to international standard ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : This question is on a seminar on science for social development. This is not regarding yield or production of rice. Anyhow, I can tell the hon. Member that we have taken up the programme in eastern States for development of rice so that productivity can be increased. There are a number of other programmes which should help the small and marginal farmers who are cultivating paddy.

[*Translation*]

Steps to Increase Production of Oilseeds in Gujarat

*161. SHRI C.D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether keeping in view the demand for edible oils, Government have prepared any scheme to encourage farmers to