

Africa is even more objectionable from our point of view. Not only does it strengthen the presence or the nebulous presence of Britain in the Indian ocean but it also helps to strengthen politically and militarily a regime which is practising the shameful policy of apartheid; and the Government which has strengthened the racist regime of Rhodesia is also lending support to Portuguese colonialism in the southern part of Africa. For all these reasons we have been totally opposed to British supply of arms to South Africa.

I would like to say that the British Government have categorically denied that they are affording any facilities to Pakistan in the Isles of Maladive. That they have categorically denied. We have no information to the contrary.

On the question of quitting the Commonwealth on this issue we do not feel that at the present moment it will be in our interest or in the interest of the Afro-Asian and Caribbean members of the Commonwealth that we take a decision to this effect, without further consultation with them.

**SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD :** After giving the withdrawal notice from the study group has there been any request made to India to join the Group? Do the Government propose to stick to this—not only stick to this, but ask other Members of the study group to withdraw from this Committee?

**SHRI SWARAN SINGH :** No request has been made directly to us that we should reconsider our decision with regard to our participation in the Study Group. Some other Member countries of the Study Group have also signified their intention not to participate in the Study Group.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :** I am happy that India has withdrawn from the Study Group of the Commonwealth. Since the British Government have consistently been sending arms in spite of protests from the progressive people and the progressive countries throughout the world, may I know whether Government have made up their mind to quit the Commonwealth on this issue or perhaps to give them an ultimatum that they will quit the Commonwealth?

**SHRI SWARAN SINGH** I have answered that question already.

#### **Survey for location of Mineral Deposits in South-Eastern Region in the Country**

\*5. **SHRI ISHAQ SAMBHALI :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND NON-FERROUS METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether extensive survey has been carried out in the South-Eastern region of the country to locate mineral deposits during the last three years ; and

(b) if so, the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND NON-FERROUS METALS (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY) (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### *Statement*

It is presumed, the Hon'ble Member is referring to Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, South-eastern part of Madhya Pradesh, Southern part of Bihar, South-western part of West Bengal, while mentioning South-Eastern region of the country.

The Geological Survey of India has conducted systematic geological mapping and mineral investigations in these areas during the last three years. As a result of these investigations, reserves of about 10.6 million tonnes of nickel ore in Sukinda area ; 4.74 million tonnes of lead-zinc ore at Sargipalli in Orissa; 64 million tonnes of copper ore in Rakha mines—Roam-Sidheshwar belt in Singhbhum district, Bihar and 5 million tonnes in Nalakunda and Dukunda blocks in Agnigundala belt, Andhra Pradesh, have been established. Sizeable deposits of bauxite, limestone, dolomite, iron ore, coal in Madhya Pradesh ; clays and coal in West Bengal ; Graphite, kyanite and coal in Bihar ; lead ore, manganese ore and chromite in Orissa and coal, limestone, lead-zinc in Andhra Pradesh have also been located.

In addition, airborne geophysical surveys over selected areas of Andhra Pradesh and Bihar were also carried out. As a result of

the ground evaluation carried out so far, a zone of copper mineralisation in Baharagora area in Singhbhum district of Bihar and mineralised section of lead and zinc in Venkatayapalem area of Andhra Pradesh have also come to light.

**श्री इसहाक सम्मली :** स्पीकर साहब, मेरा जो सवाल था वह बिल्कुल सीधा सादा था। मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि मिनरल्स निकालने के लिए—पहले मैं उड़ीसा के बारे में ही जिक्र करता हूँ जिसको कि सरकार एक—बैकवर्ड स्टेट मानती है—क्या वहाँ पर सरकार ने यह पता लगाने की कोशिश की कि कितने मिनरल्स वहाँ पर हैं और कितनी तादाद में वह एक्सेबिल हो सकते हैं? मेहरबानी करके मिनिस्टर साहब बतायेंगे कि इस बारे में क्या सर्वे किए गए और उन चीजों को कितनी तादाद में निकाल कर मार्केट में लाया गया?

**श्री नीतिराज सिंह चौधरी :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, उड़ीसा में सुकिडा एरिया में निकल 10.7 मिलियन टन्स, जिसमें एक प्रतिशत निकल पाई गई है, मिला है। सर्गिपल्ली में लेड जिक और 4.74 मिलियन टन, जिसमें 6.08 प्रतिशत लेड है उड़ीसा के सर्वे में पाया गया है।

**श्री इसहाक सम्मली :** मैं जानना चाहता हूँ क्या यह सही है कि उड़ीसा, साउथ बिहार, मध्य प्रदेश के कुछ इलाके जो हम रेंज में आते हैं और आन्ध्र प्रदेश जो है वहाँ पर यह इलाका मिली है कि अब तक जो वहाँ पर मिनरल्स निकाले गए हैं विज़नेस प्वाइन्ट आफ व्यू से, उससे बहुत ज्यादा वहाँ पर मौजूद हैं जिनकी बक्सा—फवक्शन निशानदेही की गई है? क्या यह सही है कि जो मिनरल्स अभी तक नहीं निकाले जा सके उनके लिए सरकार कोई योजना बना रही है?

**श्री नीतिराज सिंह चौधरी :** जो सर्वेक्षण हुआ है बिहार और आन्ध्र प्रदेश में भी बहुत से मिनेरल्स मिले हैं। मैं माननीय सदस्य को बताती हूँ कि तांबा बिहार में राबहा

में, तांबा पहाड़ में, थ तुराडी ब्लाक में मिला है। कोयला झरिया में, ईस्ट बोकारो, वेस्ट बोकारो, रामगढ़, नाथं करनपुरा, डाल्टनगंज और पंडावेली में मिला है। फल्केस ग्रेड और नान-फल्केस ग्रेड का लाइम-स्टोन टेनडी और बिछुआ में मिला है। और म० प्र० कै० बेलाघाट जिले में तांबा मिला है।

**SHRI JAGANATH RAO :** May I know the thinking of the Government in regard to allowing the State Government of Orissa or the Orissa Mineral Development Corporation to develop the lead deposits and the nickel deposits in the State of Orissa? May I also know the state of the Rakha copper project? Is it likely to come up very soon?

**SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY :** As regards the Rakha copper project, we have received all the papers and the matter is being processed, and we might begin mining Rakha very soon. As regards the Orissa Corporation, as soon as we receive an application from them, the matter will be considered and suitable decisions taken.

**MR. SPEAKER :** His old colleague has not forgotten the art of asking questions.

**SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD :** Rather we have refined the technique; we know it better now.

**श्री हुकम चन्द कालबाय :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मन्त्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो खनिज निकाले जाते हैं उसमें जो लोग लीज पर खानें लेते हैं वह थोड़ा सा खनिज निकाल कर ही खानें बन्द कर देते हैं जिससे कि सरकार को हानि होती है इसलिए क्या सरकार के पास कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था है कि उनको अधिक-से-अधिक कच्चा माल निकालने का तरीका बताया जाय ताकि सरकार को लागू हो सके?

इसके अतिरिक्त हमारे सुरैता जिले में कुछ ऐसे पहाड़ हैं जहाँ काँच बनाने का पत्थर मिलता है तो क्या आप उसका सर्वेक्षण करेंगे?

श्री नीतिराज सिंह चौधरी : पहला सवाल खदानों के बारे में है कि किस तरह से अधिक से अधिक कच्चा माल निकाला जाए तो इस सम्बन्ध में वे वाई० बी० एम० से परामर्श कर सकते हैं और यहां से सलाह ले सकते हैं।

मुरैना के बारे में माननीय सदस्य अलग से प्रश्न पूछेंगे तो उसका उत्तर दिया जाएगा।

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** It appears from the statement laid on the Table that a reserve of about 10.6 million tonnes of nickel ore has also been found in the Sukinda area. In view of the fact that at present this is a scarce commodity and it is extremely difficult for us to procure nickel supplies and even if we are able to do, it is at prohibitive prices, are Government undertaking any top priority project for the mining and processing of the nickel ore found at Sukinda, and if so, what are the details?

**SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY :** Government have already undertaken the work of exploiting the Sukinda mines. A detailed feasibility report has been received and as soon as it is received, work will begin.

**SHRI C. CHITTIBABU :** May I know what action has been taken on the report submitted by the Tamil Nadu Government in connection with the exploration and exploitation of minerals in the State?

**SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY :** The question relates to the South-eastern region of the country. He may table a separate question regarding Tamil Nadu.

**SHRI C. CHITTIBABU :** He is dealing with the same thing.

**MR. SPEAKER :** But the hon. member may table a separate question on it.

#### Transit of Pakistan Troops across India

\*7. **SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government received any request from Pakistan for permission or for any assistance for the transit of their troops by air or over land across our territories; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) :**

(a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

**SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN :** It is reliably learnt from reports received so far that about a lakh of troops have been transported to Bangla Desh. These troops must have gone either by sea or by overflying Indian territory. Have Government taken any steps to protest to the UNO or to ask them to prevent countries like Ceylon and China from affording transport facilities to these troops sent to Bangla Desh?

**MR. SPEAKER :** His question related to a request from Pakistan for transit *via* India. He has replied to that.

**DR. RANEN SEN :** Though a little outside the scope of this question, may I know whether Government are prepared to request the Ceylon Government as well as the Burma Government not to allow passage of troops, arms or ammunition to Bangla Desh through their territory?

**MR. SPEAKER :** The hon. member who asked the first question asked the same question and I did not allow it.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :** When this question was given notice of, the situation in Bangla Desh was different from what it is now. Now new developments have changed the complexion of East Pakistan. So the question has also changed. I hope you will allow us to put supplementaries which do not exactly arise out of it, because the question is whether Government received any request from Pakistan for permission or for any assistance for the transit of their troops by air or over land across our territories.