

under the umbrella of our country. I would like to know, whether the Government is going to establish any industry there based on minerals.

SHRI K. C. PANT : One industry, that is the mining of polymetallic ores and the concentrates has been referred to by the hon. Members, Shrimati Bhandari. Dolomite is mined and dolomite is produced by an industrialist in the private sector. Moreover, the Government of Sikkim is also examining the possibility of using the lime stone and marble for a mini cement plant. There are also promising poly-metallic deposits in other places not only at Rangpo and Dikchu. The prospects are promising there also and it is being investigated for the purpose of further development.

[*Translation*]

**Joint Projects Established in Africa
and South America.**

*475. **SHRI HARISH RAWAT :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to State :

(a) the number of joint projects established in different countries of Africa and South America during the last two years and the number of those which are proposed to be set up in those countries ;

(b) the total cost of these project ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the concerned countries are not showing the required interest now in the construction of some of these projects ;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(e) the steps being taken for the removal of those causes ?

[*English*]

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
SHRI ARJUN SINGH :** (a) to (e) A
(statement is given below.

Statement

(a) According to the information received from Indian promoters, four Indian Joint Ventures have been commissioned in Africa since 1.1.1984. Besides, 12 Indian Joint Ventures are at different stages of implementation in Africa. No Indian joint venture has been established in Latin America and no such proposal is pending.

(b) The total cost of the Joint Ventures which have commenced operation since 1.1.1984 is reported to be Rs. 225 crores approximately.

(c) Government have not received any such information.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, like his election speeches the reply given by the hon. Minister is very brief and it is not possible to make out anything out of it. What I wanted to know was whether the hon. Minister was aware that the number of proposals for joint venture projects from Africa and some other countries were gradually declining during the last few years as compared to the past years. If so, what are the reasons thereof and if not, what is the number of such proposals received every year since 1980 from different countries ?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Hon. speaker, Sir, it is not that a brief reply is not a reply and you all know the result of brief election speech and the hon. Member has a big contribution in that.

Sir, this is not true that there has been a decline in the number of projects. This is also true that there has been delay in execution of many projects due to different reasons, but there is no decline in the number of projects as such.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : 12 proposals were received from African countries before 1980, but no new proposal has been received after 1980. Some new countries—China is prominent among them—are gradually

eroding our area. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether in view of the potential of different companies in India and also in view of the scope of economic development in African countries, the Government will give incentives to Indian companies and initiate dialogue to this effect at diplomatic level with those countries, so that we may be able to get more and more proposals ?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : Sir, the suggestion made by the hon. Member is very good and it is necessary to see that special efforts are made by India for getting joint venture projects in developing countries and in Africa so as to ensure increase in the number of such joint ventures. We shall certainly make efforts in this direction.

[*English*]

SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question relates both to Africa and South America. The Statement that has been given by the hon. Minister says that there have been no such proposals for joint venture from South America. May I inform the hon. Minister that in 1983 when I made a tour of 16 countries in that part of the world, at least eight or nine of them did suggest that they wanted to have joint ventures with India in the field of agriculture, animal husbandry, large scale industries, railways and many other projects ? This is a report which is given to the Ministry of Agriculture. Probably, there is some communication gap. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether an effort will be made to find out about the countries of Latin America who are keen to have joint ventures with India. Will the matter again be opened up ?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH : I would like to inform the hon. member that whatever communication he had sent in this regard after his tour, I would certainly try to locate it and see what can be done. But the situation, as it exists at the moment has been answered in the question.

[*Translation*]

Formation of Indian Banking Service

*476. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the loss caused to Government by bank employees by resorting to strike at the time of Diwali ;

(b) whether Government propose to form an Indian Banking Service on the pattern of IAS/IPS so that such strikes are banned and officers of one bank could be transferred to another bank ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c)
A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) Reports received from public sector banks indicate that there was no strike by bank employees at the time of Diwali. State Bank of India has, however, reported that in Ahmedabad Circle the officers had observed a day's token strike on the eve of Diwali on 11th November, 1985. As a result of the strike, most of the offices could not function in Gujarat on the day of strike. The strike caused inconvenience to the customers. It is, however, not possible to quantify the loss.

(b) and (c) Government do not have any proposal to form an Indian Banking Service on the pattern of IAS/IPS. Banks are separate legal entities and a common service is not considered feasible.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, The banks remained closed for five days due to the strike by the bank employees. Still the hon. Minister is not aware of the quantum of loss sustained. In reply to the question, he has stated that each bank is functioning under its own separate rules. I want to know whether government want to introduce uniform rules in all banks in place of the existing different rules in different banks ?