

the Minister— one week, one year, 5 years or 10 years. There is no assurance given.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA : I have already answered this question.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN PANDEY : The biggest hindrance being faced in the abolition of contract labour is to determine which work is of perennial nature and which is not. All the committees constituted so far for this purpose have said that the contract labour system should be abolished, but no decision has so far been reached as to where contract labour system should be abolished and where it should continue. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether he would constitute a committee of experts to determine as to which of the work is of perennial nature and where the contract labour system should be abolished, for instance canteens. It exists in every factory and it has been generally seen that contract system is being perpetuated there.

MR. SPEAKER : You sit down, it has already been answered.

[English]

It has already been answered.

Gold Mines in Bihar

*912. **SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of gold mines found in Bihar;

(b) the quality of the gold found; and

(c) the quantity of gold which will be available to the country after purification ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (c), At

present there are no working gold mines in Bihar. Production of gold in Bihar comes from recovery of gold as a by-product from electrolytic refining of copper by Hindustan Copper Limited. However GSI and MECL are carrying out exploration for gold in a number of localities in Singhbhum, Ranchi and Monghyr districts. This exploration work is expected to be completed by 1988. The quantity and quality of the gold can be assessed only after completion of this detailed exploration work.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : Sir, here is my first supplementary. The Hon. Minister has stated in his reply that at present there are no working gold mines in Bihar and that production of gold in Bihar comes from recovery of gold as a by-product of electrolytic refining of copper by Hindustan Copper Limited. The Hon. Minister has further stated that exploration work for gold is being carried out at a number of places in Singhbhum, Ranchi and Monghyr districts in Bihar. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government are aware that gold substance is found in the sands of Sone River which flows in West Champaran and through the hills of Rohtas ? Since the evidence points to the presence of gold there, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government would order to undertake exploration work there and if so, the time by which such work would be started and the time by which the exploration would be completed ?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : The point raised by the Hon. Member will be considered soon.

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government are aware that the production of gold is falling in the country as a whole ? Also, how many gold mines are there in our country and what is the quality of gold that is being produced in the country ?

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : The question is very lengthy. Whatever gold

we get, we get it from the public undertakings. Our gold mines are under the Central Public Undertakings and we get gold from there. In Bihar, we get gold through the Hindustan Copper Limited. During the year 1984-85, we got 2,026.51 kilograms of gold from them and also 1,091.21 kilograms of gold was received from Bharat Gold Mines.

MR. SPEAKER : She is asking about Bihar. You tell whether gold is found in Bihar or not.

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : In the entire country, we get gold from Karnataka alone. From Bihar, we get gold as a by-product. At rest of the places, exploration is going on. Its viability would be known only after the results of the exploration are received.

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : I would also like to know the amount of money earmarked for raising production of gold during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : What can I say about the Seventh Five Year Plan? The Five Year Plan for exploration is still going on. It started in 1982 and is going to end in 1988.

[*English*]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that in Singhbhum district there is a river called Subarnarekha. From the last several centuries, there are stories—it was found and it was not a mere legend—that in the river Subarnarekha ... (*Interruptions*)... I would like to inform the House that from the last several centuries the people of the villages used to collect gold from the sands of the river Subarnarekha after refining ten times and filtering the water and that only five years ago there was a mela held there. 5 carat and 6 carat gold is still being collected out of the sands of the river Subarnarekha by the villagers with 24 hours a day filtering process. Subarnarekha bed is famous for that. All the great writers composed stories and novels based on the heritage of the villagers. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether

this is true and, if so, whether strong efforts can be made to see that 5 carat and 6 carat gold can be acquired from the river base.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA : Sir, as I told earlier, gold is seen glittering in Sono and river belt of Singhbhum in Santhal Pargana. As stated by the Hon. Member, the villages have been extracting something out of it for years. We would be able to know about its viability only after the results of the exploration work are received.

[*English*]

Unless conclusions are made by GSI.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : The Hon. Member has asked the question in English. The answer should be in English.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : It makes no difference.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : I can put the question also.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Order, order Why are you doing it? I can handle it.

There is no convention that if a member puts the question in English, the answer also should be in English. You can speak in any language.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : If the member asks the question in English, the answer should be in English.

MR. SPEAKER : It does not matter, Suppose the question is put in Hindi and you do not know Hindi, what will you do? You have to answer in English. This is going on. Please don't waste my time.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : There is no precedent and no convention. Everybody is free in this House. There is the facility for simultaneous translation. You can avail of it.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI : Throughout the country we have made survey of the presence of precious metals and metals. In the Aravalli hills in Gujarat near Ambaji copper, zinc, lead, silver and gold are available....

MR. SPEAKER : This is only regarding Bihar.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI : It is only about gold.

MR. SPEAKER : That is all right, but not throughout the country. If you have any question about Bihar, you can ask.

SHRI B. K. GADHVI : This is a general question. I want to know whether it is a fact that for want of a super-smelting process plant they are not being exploited and therefore the country suffers the loss.

MR. SPEAKER : No, no. Not allowed. Please look at the question and then ask.

Production Target of Pulses

*913. **SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether production targets in respect of pulses for 1986-87 have been fixed;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken for ensuring achievement of targets for 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The production target in respect of pulses for 1986-87 has been fixed at 14.0 million tonnes.

(c). To achieve this target, the following strategy is being adopted:—

(i) Introduction of pulses crops in irrigated farming system such as double and multiple cropping;

(ii) Bringing additional area under:—

(a) short duration varieties of urd, moong, etc. In rice fallows by utilising the residual moisture in rabi season;

(b) in summer season with irrigation after oilseeds, sugarcane, potato and wheat;

(c) in rabi under lentil;

(iii) Inter-cropping of arhar in soya-bean, bajra, cotton, sugarcane and groundnut both under irrigated and unirrigated conditons;

(iv) Multiplication and use of improved pulses seeds; adoption of plant protection measures; use of phosphatic fertilisers and rhizobium culture; and

(v) Improved post-harvest technology; public policies including pricing and marketing of pulses.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the production target in respect of pulses for 1986-87 has been fixed at 14.0 million tonnes. I want to congratulate him for the policies that have been formulated, but I would like to know whether directives have been issued to the State Governments that the farmers producing more pulses should be encouraged? (*Interruptions*).