

Gold Production In Kolar Gold Fields

428. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steep fall in gold production in the Kilar Gold Fields in Karnataka;

(b) whether in view of the diminishing resources of Kilar gold fields Government have considered any proposal to boost production of gold by exploring new deposits;

(c) whether it is proposed to tie up with any foreign company on a product sharing basis; and

(d) if so, the broad pattern of collaboration envisaged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BASAVARAJ PATIL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Smuggling of Gautemala Cardamom

429. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding the smuggling of Gautemala Cardamom into India through Nepal;

(b) the steps taken to check this menace; and

(c) the results achieved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). The Indo-Nepal sector of the land

border continues to be sensitive to smuggling of contraband goods including Gautemala cardamom, The concerned Customs formations in this sector have been alerted to remain vigilant against such smuggling. Close co-ordination is maintained between all the agencies concerned in the prevention and detection of smuggling. Constant re-deployment of staff and equipment to areas vulnerable to smuggling is undertaken. Special drives are launched from time to time on the borders to curb smuggling. As a result, small cardamom worth Rs. 9.13 lakhs were seized during 1989 as against Rs. 3.50 lakhs seized during 1988. The tempo of anti-smuggling drive has been maintained in 1990 and seizures of small cardamom valued at Rs. 7.30 lakhs (provisional) have been effected upto September.

Collateral Security for Loans

431. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a nationalised bank can ask for collateral security by way of personal guarantee of Promotor Directors in spite of the fact that net block (fixed assets) is much more than the outstanding term loans and working capital limits are already in addition in to first charge on current assets (with required margin provided by the company);

(b) whether taking such collateral security is a policy of the Reserve bank of India;

(c) if not, whether Government are aware that some banks in Rajasthan are insisting on such security; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India have