

made to step up production in the cement factories?

Mr. Speaker: Not a general question.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि सीमेंट की कमी नहीं है। अपने अनुभव से हम देखते हैं कि सीमेंट मिलता नहीं है। तो क्या सरकार...

प्रद्यक्ष महोदय : यह जनरल क्वेश्चन है।

Oil in Cauvery Basin

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- *85. { **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri N. R. Laskar:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri P. Kunhan:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that are being taken to intensify the drilling operation on the Cauvery Basin to find out natural oil;

(b) whether any experts have been appointed for this work; and

(c) if not, whether any offer from abroad has been obtained to carry out this work?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Thimmaiah): (a) It is proposed to drill a few structural holes to a depth of 1,200 metres for obtaining Stratigraphic information. Work is expected to commence early in 1963. The question of intensified drilling does not arise at present.

(b) Yes, Sir. Expert Indian Geologists and Drillers have been allocated for this work.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know what sort of drilling is at present being done?

Shri Thimmaiah: Seismic and other surveys are being conducted for finding out the structures suitable for

accumulation of hydro carbons. If that is found out, drilling will be intensified.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether the preliminary data in this field are indicative of any decision for intensified drilling in the area?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajarnavis): Without getting any such indication, drilling operations are generally not undertaken.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: I want to know whether the preliminary data....

Shri Hajarnavis: The first is geological survey. The second is gravite-magnetic survey. Then there is seismic survey. If all these factors are favourable, then alone we undertake heavy expenditure in drilling.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether the upper Cauvery basin in the State of Mysore will come within the purview of this survey?

Shri Thimmaiah: This will be answered in some other question.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Standard Rate for Gold

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- *86. { **Shri S. B. Das:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri B. K. Das:
Dr. L. M. Singhvi:
Shri Kajrolkar:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to fix a standard rate for gold throughout the country;

(b) if so, whether this proposal is finalised; and

(c) by what time this will be enforced?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Proposals regarding Government's

gold policy cannot be announced in advance.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shri S. B. Das: May I know whether the Government is going to impose any restriction on the hoarding of gold by an individual or by an institution?

Mr. Speaker: This they are not going to disclose.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon. Minister said that this policy cannot be declared in advance. I want to know whether it will ever be declared?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Certainly. When we come to a decision, it will be declared.

श्री बड़े: क्या मंत्री महोदय को मालूम है कि श्री मोरार जी देसाई के स्टेटमेंट के बाद बम्बई की मार्केट्स और इन्दौर की मार्केट्स बन्द हो गई और बाकी मार्केट्स में भी गोल्ड की कीमत पर काफी असर पड़ा है। इसलिये क्या शासन को कोई नीति नहीं अपनानी चाहिये ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): There is no relation between the fall of prices in gold and the fall of prices in other shares. There is no connection between the two.

श्री बड़े : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में क्या किसी नीति को अपनाने और उस को डिक्लेअर करने की जरूरत है या नहीं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह दूसरी बात है ।

श्री कछवाय : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि रक्षा के काम के लिये सरकार किस तरह पर सोना खरीद रही है ।

श्री मुरारजी देसाई : वह तो कह दिया गया है कि गोल्ड बांड्स खरीदे जायेंगे १२ ६० ५० न० ५० तोला के हिसाब से ।

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस समय सोने के दामों में जो कमी आई हुई है उस के सम्बन्ध में क्या वित्त मंत्री जी ने कोई निश्चय कर लिया है कि इस सीमा तक सोने के दाम घटने दिय जायेंगे या वह जितने भी घट जायें उतना अच्छा है ?

श्री मुरारजी देसाई : जितने भी घट जायें उतना अच्छा है ।

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know whether sharp fluctuations either way will not retard the progress in our commerce and trade at the moment?

Mr. Speaker: It is a matter of opinion.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या यह उचित नहीं होगा कि वार की परिस्थिति को देखते हुए जिस रेट पर गोल्ड बांड्स खरीदे जा रहे हैं वही रेट मार्केट में सोने का तय किया जाय. ?

Mr. Speaker: Now, Shri Indrajit Gupta.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: What is the relationship between the existing price which has been announced and the international price, and also what is the total amount of gold which has been offered to Government up till now at this new rate?

Shri Morarji Desai: The price that we have declared is the international price. That is the price which we have fixed. We cannot fix any other price according to the rules of the International Monetary Fund. I cannot say how much gold has been received already; that is not possible because I have not received all the accounts from all the States.