

Shri Ranga: When cloth is sold with price stamped on it indicating the tax portion of it, have Government calculated what percentage of the total price at which it is offered to the consumer is absorbed by Government by way of the enhanced excise duties on yarn and cloth?

Shri Kanungo: That is obvious. It is there.

Shri Ranga: He himself admitted that there is a tendency for prices to rise.

Shri Kanungo: I am talking of ex-mill prices.

Shri Nath Pai: Is the Minister aware that as a result of the difficulties like obtaining yarn and the present imposts, this industry, more than 50 per cent of which is located in Maharashtra, particularly Malegaon, is experiencing great hardship and some of the units have already gone out of production and the industry on the whole is stagnant and on the verge of extinction? If so, what relief measures, pending availability of the recommendations of the Committee, are being contemplated?

Shri Kanungo: I am aware there has been a shortage of higher count yarn, from 80 upwards. That was because we could not import long staple cotton in time. I think that position will be eased, and we are constantly looking into it. Regarding the counts below 80, there has not been any shortage.

श्री बड़े : आपने कहा कि टैरिफ कमिशन की रिपोर्ट आने के बाद में परिस्थिति चेंज हो गई है और उसमें बहुत सी कम्पलीकेशन्स हैं हालांकि मसे पेपर पढ़ने के बाद ऐसा मालूम हुआ कि कम्पलीकेशन्स नहीं हैं लेकिन जूसा कि मन्त्री महोदय ने कहा कि बहुत सी कम्पलीकेशन्स हैं तो क्या वह यह प्रकट करने की कृपा करेंगे कि वे कौन कौन सी हैं ?

Shri Kanungo: I have stated some of the complications. I do not say
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it is completely out of date, but certain new factors have come in, and have to be taken notice of.

Shri Bade: What are those factors?

Shri Kanungo: I have already told the House that one of the factors is shortage of exchange, which prohibits us from importing cotton as and when necessary. The other is that the production of Indian cotton is not adequate. These are factors which were not present when the matter was referred to the Tariff Commission.

Mineral Deposits in Kerala

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*793. { **Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:**
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Murli Manohar:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gold, iron, lead, lignite and lime-stone deposits have been found in Kerala State; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) Deposits of gold, iron and limestone are known to occur in Kerala. No deposit of lead ore has been located. Occurrences of lignite are not of any economic importance.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Mineral	Place of occurrence	Remarks
1. Gold	Wynaad good-field.	Geological mapping of the gold belt was commenced at the Madras end and has now been extended into Kerala. It is too early to comment on the possible outcome.

Mineral	Place of occurrence	Remarks
2. Iron Ores	Ettakkad, Kachcheri, Malapram, Maduvallur, Nilambur and other places in Kozhikode and Plaghat districts	Reserves of 17 million tonnes of iron ores with 32 to 38 per cent iron content have so far been estimated.
3. (a) Limestone (cement grade)	Pandaretu Chemmanthimalai Nettuvangai	Reserves estimated at 0.35 million tonnes.
(b) Limestone (shall variety)	Vembanad Lake	Probable reserves of 2 to 2.5 million tonnes have been estimated.

Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: May I know how Government propose to utilise these minerals which are found in Kerala State?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): Just now the survey is going on. After that, it should be studied, and then we will be able to take a decision with regard to utilisation.

Shri Warior: May I know how much potential has been found.

Shri C. Subramaniam: It has yet to be worked out. The survey is still going on.

Shri Bade: Is it a fact that Government is going to start gold mining near Kerala?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I have already stated that the survey is going on, it is not yet completed; after that, if we come to the conclusion that economic exploitation is possible, then we will take a decision.

Dr. M. S. Aney: May I know whether the survey is confined only to Kerala or the whole of India?

Shri C. Subramaniam: This question relates to Kerala, and I have given the position in regard to Kerala. In other areas also surveys are going on.

Strike by the Workers of H.E.L.

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*794. { **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether the workers of the Heavy Electricals Limited, Bhopal went on a strike on the 9th January 1964; and

(b) if so, their demands and how the dispute has been settled?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Bade: There were some workers on hunger strike, and some intermediary was appointed to have a talk with the labourers and with the management. May I know what results you have obtained after that talk?

Shri C. Subramaniam: There was individual hunger strike by some of the office-bearers of one of the unions there, and the Madhya Pradesh Government intervened and the hunger strike was given up.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know if there has been any strike in H.E.L. since 1962, and if so, how many man-days were lost?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I am sorry this question is limited to the strike on 9th January.

Shri Joachim Alva: There are these five big, mighty factories which are