

set the temporary *ad hoc* increase in pensions which is admissible on pensions of Rs. 100 *per mensem* and below, with marginal adjustments up to Rs. 106. Government regret that the present financial position does not permit of the grant of any further relief to the latter class of pensioners.

CORAL REEFS

*1130. **Shri Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recent investigation of the Gulf of Mannar, by the Geological Survey of India showed that large quantities of coral reefs may be available in those areas;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken adequate steps to exploit the maximum benefit out of it; and

(c) whether it is a fact that small scale manufacture of bleaching powder, caustic soda could be made out of these coral reefs?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The results of the investigation carried out by the Geological Survey of India have been forwarded to the Government of Madras, as the exploitation of mineral resources is the responsibility of the State Government concerned.

(c) The coral reefs are reported to contain over 96 per cent. of calcium carbonate and may find use in the manufacture of chemicals like bleaching powder, caustic soda, etc.

कुरन्द तथा जिप्सम की खानें

*११३१, श्री बी० डी० शास्त्री: क्या प्राकृतिक संसाधन तथा वैज्ञानिक अनुसन्धान मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे:

(क) भारतवर्ष में कुरन्द तथा जिप्सम की कुल कितनी खानें हैं एवं वे किन किन राज्यों में हैं; तथा

(ख) उन खानों में प्रति वर्ष कुल कितना माल निकलता है?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 48.]

ANCIENT MONUMENTS IN HYDERABAD

*1132. **Shri Telkikar:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the terms of Agency arrangements arrived at between the Government of India and the Government of Hyderabad, regarding the maintenance of the Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains of National importance;

(b) whether the Government of Hyderabad have transferred the maintenance of the same to the direct control of the department concerned of the Government of India; and

(c) if so, on what date?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) Pending the determination of the monuments and sites of national importance and the taking over of the work by the Government of India, the State Government were to continue to look after the monuments. The expenditure incurred by the State Government on the monuments and sites of national importance and the staff employed on them was to be met by the Government of India.

(b) Yes.

(c) On 1st July, 1953.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES

586. **Shri Tulsidas:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the following information for the period 15th August, 1947 to 31st March, 1953:

(a) the amounts actually issued and subscribed in each of the joint stock