

Geological Survey of Gurdaspur

250. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Mines and Fuel** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any geological survey of Gurdaspur District in Punjab State has been undertaken recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajarnavis):

(a) and (b). No survey for minerals has recently been carried out by the Geological Survey of India in Gurdaspur district. However, as a result of the survey last carried out during 1951, occurrences of Limestone, Potassium and Sodium Salts have been recorded. The details of the survey carried out are as follows:

Limestone.—Boulders and pebbles of limestone occur in the bed of Chakki river which flows along the border of Gurdaspur and Kangra district south and east of Pathankot. These are suitable for lime burning.

Potassium and Sodium Salts (Kallar).—Small Kallar patches occurring near Magar Mudian Chhamba, Marar, Jaintipura, Sarai and Barsora were examined. The samples from these yielded satisfactory results.

Steel Plant at Mohindergarh

251. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
 { **Shri Yashpal Singh:**

Will the Minister of **Steel and Heavy Industries** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 103 on the 23rd April, 1962 and state:

(a) whether Government have since sanctioned the setting up of a steel plant in the private sector at Mohindergarh in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the progress made in the setting up of the plant?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) and (b). Government are considering two applications for starting a pig iron plant but not for a steel plant.

Manufacture of Field Telephone Cables

252. { **Shri G. K. Singha:**
 { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
 { **Shri Basumtari:**
 { **Shri S. C. Samanta:**

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have entered into an agreement with a Japanese firm to manufacture field telephone cables.

(b) if so, where this factory will be located; and

(c) whether the project machinery will be purchased or manufactured in India or brought from Japan?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Chandigarh.

(c) Only such machinery as cannot be made or procured in the country will be procured from Japan.

Government-owned Companies working at a Loss

253. **Shri Jashvant Mehta:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have enquired into the loss sustained by Companies fully-owned by Government;

(b) what is the number of Government-owned Companies working at a loss during 1961-62;

(c) the reasons for their working at a loss; and

(d) the remedial action taken by Government to show profit?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) to (d). No specific enquiry has been held into the losses incurred during 1960-61, but these were mainly attributable to the initial teething troubles of new concerns. For the year 1961-62, the