

(b) if so, the nature of the discussion the delegation had with the Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation;

(c) the suggestions put forth by the delegation for the betterment of trade unions in the country; and

(d) the extent to which the Indian trade unions have accepted or are accepting the suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b). A delegation of Yugoslav Trade Union which visited India recently had made a courtesy call on the former Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation on the 5th February, 1973.

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

#### Survey for Mineral Wealth of Tamil Nadu

2516. SHRI K. BALADHANDAYUTHAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any detailed survey has been carried out by Geological Survey of India in Tamil Nadu to find out the mineral wealth of the State;

(b) if so, the main features of the work carried out in this respect; and

(c) the results achieved as a result of this survey?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Preliminary mineral investigations by systematic geological mapping followed by detailed mineral investigations by large scale mapping, geochemical and geophysical prospecting, pitting, trenching and drilling have been and are being carried out in various parts of Tamil Nadu.

(c) As a result of surveys carried out so far, deposits of lignite, iron ore, bauxite, limestone, magnesite, copper ore, ilmenite and garnet sands, vermiculite, gold, gypsum, clays and molybdenite have been located. Geological and mineral maps of Tamil Nadu have also been published.

#### Exploration of Non-Ferrous Metals

2517. SHRI K. BALADHANDAYUTHAM: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether progress in regard to exploration and exploitation of non-ferrous metals has been slow;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to intensify the exploration and exploitation of non-ferrous metals?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. During past decade considerable exploration work has been done for proving reserves of non-ferrous metals. This is evident from the fact that the reserves of copper ore, lead-zinc ore, nickel ore and aluminium ore as estimated upto 1971, are 245 million tonnes, 107 million tonnes, 37 million tonnes and 230 million tonnes respectively whereas ore reserves of copper, lead-zinc, nickel and aluminium were only 3 million tonnes, 10 million tonnes, nil and 28 million tonnes respectively upto 1956.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A technical Committee appointed by Government has, in the report recommended that the systematic mapping programme should be expedited to the maximum extent possible and mapping of the country should be completed by 1985. This has been accepted by Government and programmes are being formulated by the Geological Survey of India to intensify geological mapping and regional mineral exploration through recruitment.

of additional personnel and procurement of sophisticated equipment during the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Five Year Plans. A Mineral Exploration Corporation has been set up in the public sector to intensify the detailed mineral exploration of the country. Exploration for non-ferrous metals is being given due importance in the programme for intensive exploration of minerals.

As regards extensive exploitation of non-ferrous metals, exploitation in Khetri has already started on trial basis. The Project report for exploitation of Rakha Phase II, Bihar is under study by the Hindustan Copper Limited. An exploratory mining scheme for Agnigundala copper deposit is in progress by Hindustan Copper Limited and Malanjhand copper deposits development scheme is under consideration. Regarding exploration for lead-zinc in Rajasthan and Gujarat, Hindustan Zinc Limited has exploratory programme in East and West Mochia and in Zawarmala area. Dariba-Rajpura lead-zinc feasibility study has been prepared by a foreign production of bauxite. An aerial survey of non-ferrous belts in Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar, under Operation Hardrock, has also been completed.

### Industrial Units Exempted from Provision of E.P.F. Act

2518. SHRI K. BALADHANDAYU:  
THAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any industrial units have been exempted from the operation of the Employees' Provident Fund Act;

(b) if so, the name of the units exempted and the period of exemption; and

(c) the reasons for such exemptions?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) to (c). The Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 applies to establishments which are included in Schedule I to the Act and the classes of establishments as specified under section 1(3)(b) of the Act from time to time. Particulars of the three classes of establishments exempted from the purview of the Act under section 16(2) are given in the enclosed statement.

### Statement

Sl. No.	Industrial Units	Reasons for exemption	Period
1	Establishments owned or controlled by Charitable Institutions.	Working exclusively for the benefits of their own employees.	Granted exemption for 20 years from 13-8-1955 to 12-8-1974.
2	Handloom factories organised as Industrial Co-operatives.	On financial grounds.	Granted exemption for 20 years from 1-1-1955 to 31-12-1974.
3	Factories engaged in Lac including Shellac Industries.	On financial grounds.	Granted exemption for 10 years from 31-12-1961 to 31-12-1970. (The question of grant of further exemption is under consideration.)