

aspects, including relative percentage short-ages amongst the four constituent states of the Southern Region, additional assistance to the extent of 25% of available unallocated power was made available to Andhra Pradesh, with effect from 1.3.1994.

#### **Nepal as Rendezvous of ISI and Militants**

1891. SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:  
SHRI B. DEVARAJAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appeared in *Navbharat Times* dated January 5, 1994 regarding use of Nepal as a transit territory by ISI;

(b) if so, whether Nepal has emerged as rendezvous of Kashmiri militants and ISI;

(c) if so, details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government are aware of the use of Nepal as transit territory by terrorists who are linked to Pakistani intelligence agencies.

(b) and (d). The matter has been raised with the authorities in Nepal, who have extended cooperation in efforts to prevent such illegal activities within Nepal.

#### **Establishment of Restaurants by Pepsico**

1892. S H R I  
SOBHANADREESWARA  
RAO ADDE:  
SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV:  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR  
MANDAL:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved a proposal for establishing a chain of restaurants in India to be fully owned by a subsidiary of the US multinational Pepsico;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;

(c) whether the Government have permitted corporate mergers between multinational corporation and Indian brands of soft drinks;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether research is underway to study the impact of multinationals on the soft-drink market; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). Two subsidiary of Pepsico Inc. viz. Pizza Hut International & KFC have been granted approval for establishing operations in India for setting up of restaurants through 100% owned companies. The total components of US \$ 20 million in 7 years. The restaurant operations foreign exchange inflow. Technical services fees of 5% will be charged and the repatriation of dividends/

profits will not be made for an initial period of 7 years. The restaurants may also be established through joint ventures between the subsidiary and Indian entrepreneurs and also through Indian franchises.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). This Ministry is not aware whether any research is underway to study the impact of multinationals on the soft drink market. However, the multi-nationals have to compete with the existing manufacturers.

[*Translation*]

#### Import Price of Copper

1893. SHRI SHAILENDRA MAHTO:  
Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of copper has been made duty free;

(b) whether the accumulated price system of Copper has been abolished;

(c) the names of Institutions involved in mining and production of copper in India;

(d) whether the Government propose to fix the import price and distribution of copper through Hindustan Copper Limited;

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM  
SINGH YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The administered pricing policy of copper has been discontinued since March, 1992.

(c) Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) a Public Sector Undertaking under the Central Government, is engaged in mining of copper ores and production of refined copper metal. Besides HCL, Hutti Gold Mines Company LTD., a Public Sector Undertaking under the State Government of Karnataka and Sikkim Mining Corporation, a joint venture of Government of Sikkim and the Central Government are also engaged in mining of copper ores and production of copper concentrates. The copper concentrates produced by them are sent to HCL production of refined copper.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f). Do not arise

[*English*]

#### Purchase Scandal in Mineral Explorations Corporation

1894. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:  
SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWAN  
THORAT:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the multi-crore purchase scandal in the Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd., has recently come to light;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the nature of the irregularities committed and the action proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE