

on the ground of non-compliance with the provisions of section 82 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

#### Library Movement in Himachal Pradesh

1963. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state the total amount of financial aid and grant given to Himachal Pradesh to encourage library movement during 1957?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): Rs. 1,62,838.

#### Mineral Deposits in Himachal Pradesh

1964. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 649 on the 3rd March, 1958 and state the estimated quantity and value of the various minerals discovered in Himachal Pradesh?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): It is too early perhaps to estimate the quantity and value of the various minerals discovered in Himachal Pradesh, but I place on the Table of the Lok Sabha a statement giving the details in respect of each mineral discovered. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 108].

#### Iron Ore Deposits in Madras

1965. Shri Ayyakann: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that deposits of Iron Ores have been discovered near Pachchai Malai Hills (Ladapuram Village) in Madras State; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to exploit them?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir. The

discovery was made by the Geological Survey of India in 1943/1944.

(b) As usual, the Geological Survey of India has published all the information it has collected about these deposits through its memoirs. But so far, no concession has been taken out by a private party, presumably because the deposits are of limited extent, about 11 mill tons. and also because they are low grade, between 35 to 40 Fe. Such low grade ores are not ordinarily marketable. The Government of India have, however, sanctioned a 25,000 tons pilot plant at the National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur for experimentation in the use of these low grade ores by the low shaft furnace method using non-coking and other inferior coals, and even lignite, since coking coal is not available nearby. Samples of the ore have also been sent to the Jamshedpur Laboratory for preliminary investigation on its sintering and reduction qualities. These steps have awakened interest in the deposits and it is understood that a private firm has already taken out a licence from the Madras Government to set up a pig iron manufacture plant based on these deposits.

#### Drinking Wells for Scheduled Castes

1966. Shri Siddiah: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing:

(a) the number of common drinking wells for Scheduled Castes and non-Scheduled Castes that have been constructed in the Union Territories since the First Five Year Plan; and

(b) the total amount spent for the same?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) and (b). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha as soon as received.