

The Indian Bureau of Mines has recently been asked to initiate prospecting of flux grade limestone in Rewa District of Madhya Pradesh.

(c) With respect to iron ore in Bellary-Hospet region, cost estimates will be prepared only after the preliminary appraisals are completed and the scheme for detailed work is finalised. The prospecting work for flux grade limestone in Rewa District, Madhya Pradesh and Mirzapur District, Uttar Pradesh is being done by the Geological Survey of India as a part of their scheme for prospecting limestone in various parts of the country and a scheme costing Rs. 56.93 lakhs has been sanctioned for the purpose. Separate figures for expenditure on the prospecting of flux grade limestone in Rewa District, Madhya Pradesh and Mirzapur District, Uttar Pradesh are not available.

नमक सहकारी समितियाँ

२०२०. श्री बसवन्त : क्या उद्योग मंत्री बहू बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में नमक सहकारी समितियों की संख्या कितनी है; और

(ख) उसमें खूद नमक बनाने वाली संस्थाओं की संख्या कितनी है ?

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री कानूनगो) ; (क) ५१.

(ख) ४८.

Drum Closure Factories

2021. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that indigenous drum closure factories are sufficient in number and in capacity in the country;

(b) if so, their number and productive capacity;

(c) total requirement of drum closures at present in the country; and

(d) whether they are not being provided with requisite quantity of raw materials?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Drum closure consists mainly of two parts (i) flange, and (ii) bung. Three factories in the large-scale sector have been permitted to produce flanges. Two of them are also producing bungs. The total production capacity of these firms for flanges is 17,25,000 sets per annum. The total annual capacity of bungs is 20,80,000 sets. According to the information available with the Government there are, in addition, seven units in the small scale sector engaged in the manufacture of bungs. Information on their production capacity, is, however, not available.

(c) The requirement of drum closures is related to the requirement of barrels to which these closures are fitted. The requirement of barrels as estimated at present is 40,000 tons of steel corresponding to 16,00,000 nos.

(d) Raw materials which are of imported origin are being provided to the drum closure manufacturers to the extent of the availability of foreign exchange.

Export of Iron Ore to Yugoslavia

2022. **Shri Kajrolkar:** Will the Minister of International Trade be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Yugoslavia has agreed recently to purchase three lakh tons of iron ore from India during 1964 and if so, how does it compare with the price offered by other countries;

(b) whether India in return received from Yugoslavia any commodity and if so, what it is ; and

(c) the quantum of iron ore to be exported?