

of profit. Elements of expenditure like Wages, Salaries, Labour amenities, Stores, power costs, Royalty, Cesses, Depreciation, etc. are reflected in the price structure.

(b) No price has been fixed for the washed coal produced by the captive washeries of the Steel plants. In other cases the price is determined by taking into account the cost of raw coal, the operating cost of the washery plant, and the receipts from the sale of middlings which are a bye-product of the washery.

(c) There are 7 washeries at present in West Bengal and Bihar. During the Third Plan, it is proposed to set up 4 new washeries and to effect substantial expansion in three existing ones. The number of washeries for the Fourth Plan has not been decided yet, but it is estimated that the total washing capacity will have to be of the order of about 55 million tonnes, against the provision for a capacity of about 24 million tonnes in the current Plan.

#### Petro-Chemical Industries

- \*59. {  
 Shri Yashpal Singh:  
 Shri R. G. Dubey:  
 Shri P. C. Borooah:  
 Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:  
 Shri Warrior:  
 Shri Vasudevan Nair:  
 Shri M. N. Swamy:  
 Shri Subodh Hansda:  
 Dr. P. N. Khan:  
 Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:  
 Shri A. V. Raghavan:  
 Shri Pottekkatt:  
 Shri Sarjoo Pandey:  
 Shri J. B. Singh:  
 Shri P. R. Chakraverti:  
 Shri Balkrishna Wasnik:  
 Shri Vishram Prasad:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop the Petro-Chemical industries in India; and

(b) if so, whether any foreign assistance has been sought and with what result?

**The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Government recognise the need to encourage the development of petro-chemical industries in India. A number of schemes based on natural gas/naphtha have already been approved/licensed and several others are under examination.

(b) So far no foreign assistance has been sought specifically for this purpose.

#### Industrial Coal

- \*60. {  
 Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:  
 Shri Basumatari:  
 Shri Yashpal Singh:  
 Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
 Shri Bishanchander Seth:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the proposal regarding the movement of Industrial Coal through dumps;

(b) if so, when the scheme is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if already implemented, what are the areas of operations?

**The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Alagesan):** (a) and (b). It has been decided that all coal, including Industrial Coal, should as far as possible, move in block rakes to the consumers' sidings or, where this is not possible, it should move in full rakes to suitable dumps, from where individual consumers should draw their supplies. In the implementation of this decision, about 78% of the coal loading from the West Bengal/Bihar coalfields is now being done in full train loads. The question of supplies through dumps thus arises only in respect of the residual consumers. A sub-committee, which includes representatives of both the producers and consumers as well as Government