

Import of Coal

coal;

577. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI SRIKANTA JENA:

(d) whether the Government propose to pay royalty to the coal producing States at ad valorem prices; and

Will the Minister OF COAL be pleased to state:

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

(a) the quantity of coal imported during each of the last three years;

(b) the estimated quantity of coal likely to be imported during 1994-95;

(c) the likely effect of such import on the domestic price of indigenously produced

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA)

(a) According to the information obtained from Director General Foreign Trade the imports of coal, coke and briquettes et.c.during the last three years were as follows :

<i>Year</i>	<i>(in million tonnes) (data provisional) Quantity</i>
1990-91	6.20
1991-92	5.93
1993-94	6.74

(b) The quantity of coking coal likely to be imported by Steel Plants during the years 1994-95 is estimated at 6.00 million tonnes. Estimates of other varieties of coal likely to be imported during the year 1994-95 are not available.

(c) The domestic price of indigenously produced coal is being fixed by Government of India from time to time and as such it is not directly affected by coal imports.

(d) and (e) The rates of royalty on coal were last revised with effect from 1.8.1991. Next revision in the rates of royalty on coal can be effected on or after 1st August 1994. The Studying Group appointed by the

Government to examine all relevant issues in this connection is expected to give its recommendations shortly.

Oil Exploration And Refining

* 578. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether any agreement has been reached recently with Russia regarding oil exploration and refining business in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the areas where Russia has agreed to undertake oil exploration work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

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

Blood Transfusion Facilities

* 579. SHRI MANIKARAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

Will the Minister OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to ensure better and safe blood transfusion facilities to cover the risk of AIDS infection among the haemophilia patients;

(b) whether the Government propose to formulate a national blood transfusion policy to check commercialisation of blood donation and ensure supply of pure blood to haemophilia patients; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; (DR.C. SILVERA) (a) to (c) Government have made it mandatory to test every unit of blood to be used for transfusion for prevention of HIV infection through such transfusion. 150 Zonal Blood Testing Centres have been established to provide such testing facilities to all the blood Banks. All the District Level Blood Transfusion Centres are being provided with rapid test kits for the same purpose. Imported blood products are tested before being permitted to be used. This is expected to ensure supply of safe blood to all those who need it including haemophilia patients. To increase the avail-

ability of blood, voluntary blood donation is being encouraged. This, alongwith establishment of component separation facilities would help in rational and optimal utilisation of safe blood.

ISI Activities In Bihar

* 580 SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing activities of the inter Services Intelligence (ISI) in Bihar;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government are also aware that Pak-trained militants are entering India through the Indo-Nepal border touching Bihar;

(d) if so, the effective steps taken/proposed to be taken to strengthen the security measures on the said border;

(e) whether the Union Government have issued any instructions to the Government of Bihar in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (c). Yes, Sir.

(b)and (d). Government is alive to the situation and are taking all necessary steps in this regard which, inter alia, include gearing up of intelligence machinery, coordinated action by Central and State agencies.