

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand what he is asking. He is asking whether the minorities in Kashmir will get the benefit out of this scheme or not.

SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: Sir, this specifically relates to minorities all over the country including Kashmiris. Minorities in Kashmir are separate entity and we will take care of their interests. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I seek your protection, please get the statement from the Minister....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He has answered that while saying that taking into consideration the minorities in the country this scheme is prepared.

(Interruptions)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Let him say that the minorities in Kashmir will not get the benefit of it.*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He has said that taking into consideration the minorities in the country this scheme is prepared or something of that sort. We cannot compel him to answer a particular manner.

(Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Closure of Coal Mines

*124. SHRI HARADHAN ROY:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- the details of the closed coal mines of the Coal India Limited, subsidiary-wise after nationalisation;
- the quantity of coal reserve, colliery-wise;
- the specific reasons for the closure of these mines;
- whether the Government have any plan to reopen them;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND HODLING ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) According to Coal India Limited the number of their mines closed since nationalisation is 94. the subsidiary-wise details are as under:

Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL)	52
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL)	10
Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL)	3
Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL)	14
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (SECL)	15
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(b) and (c). Out of 94 mines, 79 mines are closed for the reasons of exhaustion of coal reserves/quarriable

reserves and four mines have since been amalgamated with other mines. The remaining eleven mines have been closed/work temporarily suspended for reasons of fire, inundation, safety considerations, non-viability/uneconomic conditions, difficult geo-mining conditions etc. The known mineable reserves in these 11 mines are as under:—

ECL (West Bengal)

1. Krishna Nagar	0.40 m.t.
2. Sitalpur	12.00 m.t.
3. Shankarpur	6.00 m.t.
4. Girimint	3.60 m.t.
5. New Ghusick	2.00 m.t.
6. Mahabir	5.60 m.t.
7. Kankartola 1 & 2	6.00 m.t.
8. Tara (UG)	1.40 m.t.

BCCL (West Bengal)

9. Victoria (US)	3.10 m.t.
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BCCL (Bihar)

10. Rajapur DCP	0.30 m.t.
11. Tasara OCP	2.05 m.t.

(d) to (f). Excluding coal mines where coal reserves are already exhausted, Coal India Ltd. have been making efforts to reopen closed mines where commercial potential has been indicated as a result of extensive exploration.

[Translation]

Import of LPG and LPG Cylinders

*125. SHRI RAJINDER KUMAR SHARMA:
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- the extent of demand for LPG during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 separately;
- whether the Government also import LPG and LPG cylinders to meet the domestic demand;
- if so, the quantum of LPG and number of cylinders imported during the above period, separately;
- the average percentage of demand being met through domestic production each year;
- whether there is a huge difference in the prices of indigenously produced LPG and imported LPG; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) LPG demand of existing customers of public sector oil companies, which is regulated by indigenous production and feasible imports, during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 is as below:

(Figures in TMT)

Year	LPG consumption
1991-92	2650
1992-93	2866
1993-94 (Provisional)	3103

(b) and (c) The import of LPG is limited by import infrastructure available at Bombay and Vizag. The quantity of LPG imported during the years 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94 is as under:-

(Figures in TMT)

Year	LPG imports
1991-92	215
1992-93	328
1993-94 (Provisional)	410

LPG cylinders are not imported by Government oil companies.

(d) The details of LPG production and percentage of demand met through indigenous production during 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94 are as under:-

(Figures in TMT)

Year	LPG Production	% of demand met through indigenous production
1991-92	2439	92
1992-93	2572	89.7
1993-94 (Provisional)	2699	87

(e) and (f) The C & F price of imported Bulk LPG (October 1994) was \$ 190.88/MT which works out to a landed cost (Excluding CVD) of about Rs. 7065/MT. The cost of production by Government Oil Companies is much cheaper and different in case of refineries and fractionators. The price of LPG sold in the country by public sector oil companies is the same whether procured indigenously or imported. The current ex-storage point price (Excluding excise duty) of LPG (packed domestic) is Rs. 5309.19/MT and that of LPG (Bulk non-essential) is Rs. 11601.78/MT in the country. In all, there are six categories of LPG pricing and weighted average price of all the categories works out to about Rs. 5822.25/MT.

Sharing of Yamuna Water

*126. SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) regarding sharing of Yamuna water signed on

May 12, 1994 has been accepted by the concerned State Governments;

(b) if not, the views expressed by the State Governments;

(c) whether the Union Government have taken any steps during the last four months in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (d). The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) dated 12th May, 1994 regarding sharing of Yamuna Waters was signed by Chief Ministers of the States of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and National Capital Territory of Delhi. The concerned States have not expressed any adverse views against the Memorandum of Understanding and as the Agreement has been signed by Chief Ministers, the Agreement has been taken as accepted by the State Governments.

National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporations

*127. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:
SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated by the Union Government to the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

(b) whether such corporations have been set up at State level also;

(c) if so, the names of States where such corporations have been set up alongwith the amount allocated to each such State during the above period; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that maximum people belonging to backward classes derive the benefit through these corporations?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) The amount allocated by the Union Government to the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporations (NBCFDC) during 1993-94 and 1994-95;

The Central Government has allocated Rs. 32 crore during the year 1993-94 and Rs. 35.9 crore during 1994-95, towards equity share capital in the NBCFDC.

(b) Whether such Corporations have been set up at State level also; Yes, Sir.

(c) If so, the names of States where such Corporation have been set up alongwith the amount allocated to each such State during the above period;

Twelve State have set up their own Corporations for development and financing of backward classes, NBCFDC sanctions loans to these Corporations for further loaning to the members of Backward Classes