

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG) : (a) Necessary exercises pertaining to the Mid-Term Appraisal (MTA) of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) are underway in the Planning Commission.

(b) to (d). These questions will arise only after the completion of the Mid-Term Appraisal.

(e) to (g). Planning is a continuous process and each phase of the process is co-related to each other. Exercises concerning each of the phases are regularly undertaken by the Planning Commission for formulation of future Plans. Specific exercises relating to formulation of Ninth Five Year Plan will be based on the outcome of Mid-Term Appraisal of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

#### Oil Wells

\*607. SHRI KUNJEE LAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the oil is not extracted from a large number of wells;

(b) if so, the names of those oil wells; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to make those oil wells functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The number of non-flowing wells keeps changing from time to time. As on 1st April, 1995 707 wells of ONGC and 46 wells of OIL were not flowing.

(c) Steps taken to make the oil wells functional include work-over operations, connection of flow-lines and other production facilities, artificial lift, stimulation etc.

#### Radio Paging Service

\*608. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :  
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Department of Telecommunications has decided to invite financial bids for radio paging service;

(b) if so, the details alongwith objectives thereof;

(c) the terms and conditions decided for the bids;

(d) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented in the country.

(e) whether the Government propose to highlight the advantage of radio paging service for awareness of people; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The financial bids have been invited from shortlisted Companies for finalising the franchise for providing radio paging services in different Circles. The bids are being invited Circlewise in phases for four to five Circles at a time. The bidders have to quote the paging levy for the entire 10 year period for the licence. The bidders will be selected on the basis of the paging levy quoted by them.

(d) The process of inviting bids in phases has already commenced. The successful bidders have to execute an agreement and provide the service within one year of signing the agreement.

(e) Since the service is being franchised to private Indian Companies, the licencess are expected to take care of highlighting the advantages of this service and creating a market for their services.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

[English]

#### Joint Bipartite Committee for Coal Industry

\*609. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Joint Bipartite Committee for Coal Industry (JBCCI) has been constituted to study and solve all wage negotiations of the coal mine workers in the coal sector;

(b) if so, the number of meetings of JBCCI held since its formation;

(c) when is the next meeting scheduled;

(d) whether wage settlements regarding Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. is also being considered by JBCCI; and

(e) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) Joint Bipartite Committee for Coal Industry-V was constituted on 11.11.1994 to negotiate the National Coal Wage Agreement-V.

(b) and (c). Four meetings of JBCCI-V have been held so far. The date for the next meeting of JBCCI-V has not been fixed.

(d) and (e). Wage negotiations in the JBCCI cover the entire coal sector, including Singareni Collieries Company Limited. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the representatives of workers and managements on the JBCCI, on 29th April, 1995. A copy of the MOU is enclosed as Statement -I.