

1	2	3	4	5
Central Coalfields Limited	29	58	23	38
Western Coalfields Limited	44	69	18	60
South Eastern Coalfields Limited	36	55	27	49
Mahanadi Coalfield Limited	11	21	1	20
Northern Coalfields Limited	8	9	6	4
Singareni Collieries Company Limited	63	250	51	234
Indian Iron & Steel Company	3	8	1	9
Tata Iron & Steel Company	7	16	3	13
Gujarat Mineral Development Corp.	1	1	0	1
Neyveli Lignite Corporations	1	3	3	0
Total	325	786	240	684

[English]

Indo-Iran Agreement

*616. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Iran have agreed to set up a joint venture company for exploration and production of oil and gas;

(b) if so, whether any agreement/memorandum of understanding has been signed between the two countries;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the extent to which Iran has agreed to assist India in oil exploration;

(e) whether both the countries have reviewed the progress of gas pipeline project; and

(f) if so, the latest position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (d) A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. and National Iranian Oil Company for the formation of a Joint Venture with the objectives of seeking global opportunities for exploration, development and services in oil and gas sectors.

(e) and (f). The progress of the Iran-India natural gas pipeline project has been reviewed by both the countries and the concerned agencies have been asked to complete the feasibility study on schedule.

Sunder Rajan Committee

*617. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

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

(a) whether the Sunder Rajan Committee has recommended the total deregulation of all the oil industry sector by removing Administered Price Mechanism;

(b) whether the report has estimated that an investment of Rs. 300,000 crores would be required to manage the phenomenal growth in demand for petroleum products;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of recommendations examined so far; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to implement the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (e). Sunder Rajan Committee report is the input material for the 'Strategic Planning Group' formed for restructuring of the National Oil Industry, with members comprising top management from public and private sector and leading experts from academic and research institutes. The report of the Strategic Planning Group is awaited.

Cost Escalation of Projects

*618. SHRI LOKNATH CHOUDHURY :
SHRI PARAS RAM BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the cost escalation of many public sector projects;

(b) if so, the extent thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial steps taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on 1.1.95, out of 356 projects costing Rs. 20 crores and above monitored by the Department of Programme Implementation, 145 projects have reported cost overrun with respect to their latest approved cost. The cost of these 145 projects have gone up from Rs. 53188 crores to Rs. 82140.7 crores i.e. by 54.4 percent

(c) According to the analysis of revised cost estimates of some projects, the main reasons for increase in cost include; change in statutory duties like