

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) The Coal reserves in the country as estimated (down to 1200 metres depth) by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) are 200.03 billion tonnes as on 1.1.1995.

(b) The Coal production in the country during the year 1993-94 was 246.04 million tonnes and during the current financial year (April, '94 to February, '95) the total coal production was 222.48 million tonnes (provisional).

(c) and (d) Thermal Power Stations, by and large, are getting adequate supply of coal.

(e) Steps taken by Coal Companies to increase production inter alia include opening of new mines and increasing efficiency and productivity in existing mines by modernisation, application of new technologies, and ensuring timely availability of inputs and infrastructural facilities.

[English]

Petroleum Sector Appraisal

*74. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted a mid-term appraisal of the petroleum sector during the Eighth Five year Plan;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the targets have not been achieved; and

(d) if so, the corrective steps taken by the government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Mid-Term Review of the Petroleum Sector, by Planning Commission, is still under progress and yet to be approved by the Planning Commission.

Irrigation Projects

*75. SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of irrigation projects pending with the Union Government for clearance till date, State/UT-wise;

(b) the reasons for delay in clearing the projects;

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be cleared; and

(d) the irrigation projects approved by the Union Government during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 along with the funds allocated, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) A Statement I giving the number of new major and medium irrigation projects pending clearance State-wise is attached.

(b) and (c) The clearance of a project depends upon how soon the state Government complies with the observations of various Central Appraising Agencies and obtains forests/environment/rehabilitation & resettlement plans clearance as applicable.

(d) A Statement II giving State-wise details of new major and medium irrigation projects given investment clearance by the Planning Commission during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 is attached.