

Electronic Mail Service

*238. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have introduced Electronic Mail Services with a view to linking entire country with computers;
- (b) if so, the names of the places being linked thereby;
- (c) the annual estimated expenditure incurred thereon; and
- (d) the targets fixed for 1995-96 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG) : (a) Yes, Sir. National Informatics Centre is providing E-Mail services through its network NICNET to Central Government Departments. States/Union Territories and District Headquarters. These offices are using E-mail for exchanging messages/information on day-to-day basis. The facility has been extended to Parliamentarians. Public Sector Undertakings, Exporters, Education, Research and Development Organisations. There are about 10,000 users availing this service. The E-Mail is connected to Internet Mail Service and many other X, 400 mail services in the world. In addition, there are a few more E-mail service providers in the country like ERNET of the Department of Electronics and ICNET, GEMS 400, UUNET (India), Datapro etc. in the private sector.

(b) All Central Government Departments, State/Union Territory capitals and District Headquarters.

(c) A capital cost of about Rs. 10 crore has been incurred. Recurring expenditure of about Rs. 6 crores is being incurred annually.

(d) The target fixed for 1995-96 are :

- (i) Increasing the handling capacity of the E-mail centres.
- (ii) Extending the service to 1000 R & D institutions and Universities/Colleges.
- (iii) Extending the services to 1000 export/trading houses, Customs Agents. etc.

[English]

Splitting of ONGC

*239. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to split the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) into six independent companies with Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited as holding company;

(b) if so, the rationale behind this organisational restructuring;

(c) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has suffered a substantial loss over the

past one year;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the factors leading to such huge loss;

(e) the manner in which this loss is likely to be adjusted/made up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Allocation of Coal

*240. SHRI ASTBUJA PRASAD SHUKLA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of coal in the country during 1994-95.

(b) the quantity of coal allocated to the States to meet their requirements during the said period;

(c) the quantity of coal imported during the said period and the foreign exchange involved therein;

(d) whether some States have recently objected that they are not getting the allocated quantity of coal;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) Coal production in the country during 1994-95 was about 253.80 million tonnes.

(b) Demand of coal in the country is assessed Sector-wise by the Planning Commission and not State-wise. Demand of major sectors during 1994-95 is as under :

| | (million Tonnes) | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Sector | Demand | Offtake |
| Power (Utilities) | 167.00 | 166.45 |
| | (3.00) | (2.67) |
| Steel | 34.50 | 34.56 |
| Railways | 2.20 | 0.66 |
| Cement | 13.10 | 11.12 |
| Fertiliser | 4.00 | 4.28 |
| Others | 47.70 | 43.57 |
| (including Colliery) Consumption | (2.00) | |
| Total | 268.50 | 260.64 |
| | (5.00) | (2.67) |

Note : Figures in brackets are washery middling.