

From the above figures, it will be seen that the fault rate has gone down in the last three months.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There was no delay in rectifying the defective telephones. In MTNL, Delhi, 70% of the telephones reported faulty get attended to by the following day and majority of the balance 30% faults are attended within the next two days. However, in case of cable breakdowns or theft it may take a little longer to restore the interruption.

(d) Does not arise.

Import of Coal

3789. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Maharashtra State Government is importing coal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof regarding amount etc; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to meet the demands of coal in the country itself?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Coal can be freely imported under the present import policy and the same is made by the consumers themselves considering their needs and exercising their own commercial judgement.

(c) Coal projects have a long gestation periods. The actual level of production and its supplies depend on the long term projections made initially by the consumers and the investments made less in new and ongoing projects as well as within the overall constraints of transportation, infrastructure and payment for coal supplies by the consumers. However, the steps taken to improve the production of coal in the country include opening of new mines and increasing efficiency and productivity in the existing mines by modernisation and application of new technologies and ensuring timely availability of inputs and infrastructure facilities. In addition private sector is being allowed to mine coal for specified captive use.

[English]

Drug Peddling

3790. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY :

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn into the news item captioning '3 charged with drug peddling acquitted' appeared in the "Times of India" dated November 23, 1995;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken note of the remark made by the judge that 'the entire search and seizure made by the police was illegal as they had not complied the mandatory requirements of Sector 50 of the Narootic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act'; and

(c) if so, the action has been taken against the police officials for their negligence in handling the case resulting in the acquittal of the known inter-State smugglers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. M. KAMSON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Import of Naphtha

3791. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of naphtha and natural gas liquified imported during 1994-95 and proposed to be imported during the current financial year; and

(b) the rates at which naphtha and natural gas liquified are being exported/imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) Indian Oil Corporation has not imported Naphtha and Natural Gas Liquified (NGL) during the year 1994-95 and between April-November, 1995. There is no proposal to import these products this year by IOC. Private sector parties imported about 360 TMT of naphtha during 1994-95.

(b) The weighted average price of Naphtha and NGL exported during the period April-Oct., 1995 as under :-

	(Provisional) Rate/MT
	US \$
Naphtha	148.73
NGL	132.13

Minimum Consumption Expenditure

3792. SHRI SOBHANADRESSWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the Government's estimates, the minimum consumption expenditure for living a standard life above poverty line is fixed at Rs. 11,000 per annum for rural areas and Rs. 11,800 for urban areas;

(b) if so, the minimum consumption requirement for a three unit family;

(c) whether the Minimum wage of the Central Government employees is commensurate to this requirement; and