

has been importing petroleum products;

(b) if so, the amount spent on such import during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have proposal to reduce the import of Petroleum products during 1991-92; and

(d) if so, the total amount spent on import so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Year	Amount in Rs./ Crores
1988-89	1482
1989-90	2202
1990-91	4555

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Petrol/Diesel Retail outlets and LPG Agencies in Himachal Pradesh

1136. SHRI D.D. KHANORIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol/diesel retail outlets and LPG agencies in Kangra and Chamba districts of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government propose to allot more such agencies in the above districts;

(c) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) As on date, there

are 20 petrol/diesel retail outlets and 11 LPG distributorships in Kangra and Chamba districts of Himachal Pradesh.

(b) to (d). Retail outlets and LPG distributorships are opened as per Marketing Plans and policy in force from time to time.

Policy reforms in Steel Industry

1138. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the policy reform in Steel industry is long overdue;

(b) whether existence of the Joint Plant Committee has been a serious impediment in growth of Steel industry;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal for disbanding of the Joint Plant Committee;

(d) if so, the details thereof and time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) whether the Government propose to have a national consensus in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Review of Policies in the Steel is a continuous process.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Dual Pricing Policy of Fertilizers

1139. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE: SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received representation for reviewing the

dual pricing policy on fertilizers;

(b) If so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) the number of small and marginal farmers in each State benefited after the implementation of this policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Union Ministry of Agriculture have framed guidelines in consultation with the stage Governments about the preparation and implementation of a scheme to ensure the supply of fertilisers to small and marginal farmers, at the pre 25th July, 1991, revised prices. In view of the difficulties expressed by various States, flexibility has been kept in the guidelines to ensure that the States implement the scheme, with in the available funds.

(c) The guidelines of the scheme were communicated to the States on 14th August, 1991. The State Governments are in the process of implementing the scheme. At this stage of implementation, it is not possible to ascertain the number of small and marginal farmers who have benefited under this scheme in different States.

Restructing of Coal India Limited

1140. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Union Government for restructuring the Coal India Limited; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to any proposed modifications in the status of Coal India

Limited as a holding company. There is no proposal to modify the status of Coal India as a holding company for the present.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of Steel Plants In Orissa with Private Collaborations

1141. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has entered into an agreement with Swaraj Paul and Hinduja for setting up of steel plants in Orissa, and?

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the steel plants are likely to be set up there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). According to information received from the Govt. of Orissa, the State Govt. has on 1st November, 1991 entered into a Memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Dr. Swaraj Paul of the Capro Group to set up an integrated steel plants in Orissa. The Board of management of the Steel plant will be formed by the Capro Group in consultation with the Govt. of Orissa. It has been indicated that the Capro Group will arrange a financial package including foreign currency and rupee components. The time for completing the steel plant has not been decided. Though the broad outlines have been incorporated in the MOU, details are to be worked out and if necessary, the terms of the MOU will be modified and detailed in an agreement in due course.

Agricultural Seminars

1142. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the number of Seminars organised, directly and indirectly, by his Ministry during 1991 and the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE