

Working of HBJ Pipeline Project.

4669. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR
KANODIA :
SHRI RAMESHCHAND
TOMAR :
SHRI DATTATRAYA
BANDARU :
SHRI CHETAN P S.
CHAUHAN :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL
KATHERIA :
SHRI BALARAJ PASSI :
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA
KUMARI :
SHRI VIRENDRA
SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in his Report No. 9 (Commercial) of 1990 has adversely commented upon the working of the Hazira-Bijapur-Jagdishpur Pipeline Project of the Gas Authority of India Limited; and

(b) if so, the corrective steps proposed to be taken by the Government on the issues raised in the Report "

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) The CAG has in his report, inter alia commented on the under utilisation of the available potential of the HBJ pipeline and the loss of revenue to GAIL therefrom, the delay in the setting up of LPG and C2C3 extraction projects and the delay in the setting up of three fertilizer plants.

Corrective steps taken include amongst others prevailing upon the three delayed fertilizer units to sign the Gas Supply Contract with GAIL, commissioning of the LPG extraction plant at Bijaipur and expediting GAIL's project for the setting up of an integrated petrochemical complex at Augaiya based on C2C3 from the pipeline.

Cost of Bio-gas Plants

4670. SHRI P. M SAYFED : Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to make solar cookers available at subsidised rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the cost of setting up of a bio-gas plants and also the cost of an improved chulha "

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY

SOURCES (SHRI KALPNATH RAI) : (a) and (b) There is a Central subsidy of Rs. 150/- or 1/3 rd of the cost of a domestic solar cooker, whichever is less. The Central subsidy on community solar cookers is 1/3rd of the cost or Rs. 1050/- whichever is less.

(c) The cost of setting up biogas plants of capacities from 1 to 6 cubic metres ranges from about Rs. 5,400/- to about 14,2000/- depending upon the size, location and model of the plant. Depending upon the sizes and

models, the cost of a fixed type of improved chulha varies from about Rs.25/ to about Rs. 105/-and that of a portable type improved chulha from about Rs. 60/- to about Rs. 165/-

Tourism Development in Lakshadweep

4671. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Territory of Lakshadweep is being assisted to exploit sources which have abundant potential for tourism:

(b) if so, the details thereof: and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c) The Union Territory of Lakshadweep is being assisted to exploit sources which have abundant potential for tourism. Funds have been earmarked for purchase of a cruising boat, water sports equipment and a fishing boat during 1991-92.

[Translation]

Holding of Commercial Fair for Foreign Tourism in Agra

4672. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to organise a permanent commercial fair in Agra to speed up the efforts for earning foreign exchange and to provide facility to foreign tourists:

(b) if so, the details thereof: and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION & TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Agra is already visited by a large number of foreign tourists. Since sale of handicrafts and other souvenir items to foreign tourists is a normal feature at Agra, the need to hold a permanent commercial fair has not been felt.

[English]

Loss suffered by Coal India Limited

4673. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :
SHRI RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Limited, has suffered losses during 1990-91:

(b) if so, the amount of loss suffered and the reasons thereof: and

(c) the remedial action proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Accounts of Coal India Ltd. for the year 1990-91 are under process of finalisation. According to Coal India Ltd. the main reason for losses in Coal India Ltd. is the delay in allowing the increase in the administered price of coal with the result that the price did not fully cover the escalation in the