

Creation of Coal Division for Orissa

1378. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to create some additional divisions of different coal companies;

(b) if so, whether the proposals to set up a separate coal division for the State of Orissa is under the consideration of the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P.A. SANGMA):

(a) At present there is no such proposal.

(b) and (c). A decision has been taken in principle to form a separate subsidiary coal company of Coal India Limited in Orissa. The formalities including registering of company etc. may take time and therefore it may not be possible to indicate a time limit for implementing the decision.

Funds to Maharashtra Under Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns

1379. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to Maharashtra for urban development and utilised during the Seventh Plan under the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns;

(b) the funds allocated for development of Rajapur, Vengurla, Sawantwadi and Malran towns; and

(c) the details of the Development works

undertaken in the areas referred to above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) During 7th Five Year Plan, Rs. 455.215 lakhs were released by Govt. of India. The expenditure incurred by the State Govt. on the towns covered during 7th Five Year Plan (for 12 towns) amounts to Rs. 673.47 lakhs.

(b) As per guidelines the selection of the town for priority development vests with the concerned State Govt. As these towns were not given priority in the 7th Five Year Plan by the State Govt., these towns were not severed under the Scheme.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply at (b) above.

Cost of Antarctica Expedition

1380. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the annual cost of the Antarctica expedition and maintenance of permanent station therein;

(b) the aims and objectives of the project;

(c) whether there exists an international treaty for acquiring permanent territorial rights of the Antarctica;

(d) if so, whether India is signatory to this treaty; and

(e) the geographical area where the Government propose to establish its territorial rights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The total cost of launching eleven expeditions so for includ-