

of the Indian Space Research Organisation (Department of Space) at the following locations.—

- (i) Ahmedabad Earth Station to Nadiad TV Transmitting Station,
- (ii) Delhi Earth Station to AIR TV Studio

The works on these links are in advanced stages of installation and they are expected to be completed by the end of April, 1975

Unauthorised Coal Mining in Eastern Region

5547, SHRI VASANT SATHE Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware of unauthorised coal mining in eastern region in collusion with the Mining and other Government officials;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) (a) to (c) Reports have been received by the Central Government that certain private parties are mining coal in Bihar, mainly in the Hazaribag and Giridih districts. Some of the parties possess valid mining lease but have not complied with all the requirements of other laws. Steps are being taken to deal effectively with the problem of illegal and unauthorised mining

Target Fixed for Thermal Power Generation during current year

5548, SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) whether target fixed for thermal power generation in the country during the current year has been fully achieved; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof and the steps likely to be taken to improve the position?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) (a) and (b) In the State Power Ministers' Conference held in July 1974, it was decided that each thermal station would try to achieve a 25 per cent increase in generation from what was achieved in the past except for those already performing at a high level of 6000 Kwh/Kw and above

The following steps have been taken to maximise generation from the thermal stations —

(1) Procurement and stocking of spares in adequate quantity,

(2) Rationalisation of movement of coal to the different power stations through appropriate linkages of collieries to power stations to ensure adequate supplies of coal of consistent quality to match the design requirements of the boilers

(3) Close Monitoring of operation and maintenance of thermal stations.

(4) Training of Operation and maintenance personnel

(5) Expeditious construction of Inter State Transmission Lines of adequate capacities to enable integrated operation of power system

(6) Rostering and staggering of loads to the extent possible and necessary in an effort to flatten the load curves as this enables the thermal generation units to operate at uniformly high load factor

(7) A Standing Committee has been set up with the representatives from Central Electricity Authority, Department of Coal Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Instrumentation Ltd., Kota, Electricity Boards to keep a continuous check on the performance of the various units and to take prompt corrective/remedial action as necessary