

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

(6) Steps have been taken to modernise the maintenance procedure, and improve the management of thermal power stations.

As a result of implementation of these steps, a number of stations have achieved the target between October, 1974 and March, 1975.

#### **Geo-Stationary Communication Satellites**

5549. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY: Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation envisages the building and launching of operational geo-stationary communication satellites;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) when it is likely to be launched?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF SPACE, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The profile for development of space programmes during the decade 1970-80 includes establishment of our own satellite system using multi-purpose satellite for TV coverage and telecommunication links. In the Fifth Plan it was proposed to establish a national satellite for television and telecommunication using a geo-stationary satellite which will, in addition to broadcasting TV programmes, also be used for telecommunication. The Planning Commission set up a Task Force with representatives of the Commission and various user Ministries in order to evolve an integrated plan and its report was submitted in September 1973. The proposal is still under consideration.

#### **Co-operative Federation at Project Level for Tribal People**

5550. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a Co-operative federation at the project level to meet various needs of the tribal people in respect of credit, marketing and consumption;

(b) whether Government propose to link the same with the tribal development project to be implemented under the aegis of the Central Tribal Development Agency; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) A Study Team on Co-operative structure in Tribal Development Projects (Bawa Committee) appointed by the Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture, recommended establishment of large sized multi-purpose Societies for Singhbhum (Bihar), Ganjam and Koraput (Orissa) and a Tribal Development Cooperative Federation for Baster District in Madhya Pradesh. These recommendations have been forwarded to the concerned State Governments for implementation.

(b) and (c). There is no proposal to set up a Central Tribal Development Agency.

#### **Raids conducted by Enforcement Directorate on Residential and Company Premises of Bihar**

5151. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of raids conducted by the Enforcement Directorate on the residential and company premises of the Bihar to date for the last three years;