

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) There is no proposal to establish a Dry Port at Jaipur.

(b) to (c). Do not arise.

**Complaints regarding supply of coal to consumers**

814. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received certain complaints from the consumers particularly from the power plants in regard to the supply of over-sized and adulterated coal which affect their Production ;

(b) if so, whether any study has been made to find out the causes;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to supply the coal to the consumers according to their requirements so that their production may not suffer ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (d). There have been complaints from power stations about the size of coal, low calorific value and presence of extraneous material in the coal. It has been found that the quality of coal supply in terms of calorific value, mostly conform to the boiler parameters of the Thermal Power Stations concerned. Regarding the receipt of over-sized coal and presence of shale and other extraneous material in the coal, the problem arises because of the opening of a number of opencast mines without Coal Handling Plants.

To ensure proper sizing and removal of extraneous material, Coal Handling Plants are being constructed at the collieries. At present, 55.90% of the coal produced in the country pass through CHP's. Construction of more CHP's has been planned. By 1987-88, 94% of the coal produced will pass through CHP's. In the meanwhile, the Coal Companies have been directed to ensure manual breaking of bigger pieces and picking of extraneous material to

ensure that coal of proper size and quality is supplied.

**Shortage of coal faced by Thermal Power Houses**

815. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of coal being faced by thermal power houses in the country though there is abundance of coal at the pitheads;

(b) whether Government have assured that the power houses in the North alone will be given adequate coal supply to maintain their current requirement and also to build up stock for a month; and

(c) if so, the way in which Government propose to maintain adequate supply of coal to power houses in southern parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The coal stocks at some power stations are low because of transportation problems, inadequate facilities at the power stations for handling of coal wagons and also due to inadequate production by the Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.

(b) Power stations in all parts of the country are being supplied coal to meet their requirements and build up stocks.

(c) Due to shortfall in production in Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd., some of the power stations in South India have low stocks. Government have taken the following steps to meet the situation:—

1. Government of Andhra Pradesh and the management of Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd., have been impressed upon the need to take all necessary steps to curb strikes and absenteeism in SCCL and improve production.
2. Coal is being supplied to Southern India from Coal India Ltd., to the extent feasible, depending on the movement possibilities, by rail, road and sea routes.