

- existing set-up is called for. In particular, a separate Coal Carbonisation Bye-Products Corporation' should be set up in India for exclusive development of coal chemicals. This Corporation can by coal tar and its distillates from the Coke Ovens and sell back stripped gas to the Steel Plants. Such a Corporation would be able to induct latest technology in production, optimise product-mix and improve recovery of chemicals, coal tar and tar acids and above all tone up the operational efficiency of the entire production process.
3. Steel Plants should be encouraged to switch over gradually to petroleum products such as LSHS in order to release coal tar and its distillates for recovery of Chemicals. A study should be undertaken to evaluate the gains made on a National scale from such substitution of coal tar and its distillates by petroleum products as fuel.
 4. Suitable measures should be introduced immediately to step up plant capacity for recovery of tar, benzole and other by-products in the existing coke oven plants where inadequacy prevails.
 5. The coke for the Steel Plants should be produced in a number of HTC and LTC types of coal carbonisation plants and not in 'Beehive Coke Ovens' or 'Bhattis' as at present, so that plenty of coal gas would be available as a source of Ammonia and recovery of coal chemicals could be optimised.
 6. At least one full-scale plant should be set up for production of Pitch Coke to cater to the needs of expanding Aluminium Industry. Such a measure will lead to savings of valuable foreign exchange by replacing the import of Petroleum coke.
 7. At least four additional LTC Plants should be set up in different parts of the country with all facilities for recovery of coal chemicals.
 8. For Fertilizer production, coal should be given preference to petroleum products, wherever possible.
 9. A High-Powered Monitoring Cell for Coal Chemicals should be constituted by drawing representatives from Steel Plants, National Research Institutes, Chemical Manufacturers and other concerned Organisations. This Cell should provide guidance and ensure prompt implementation of policies with regard to coal chemicals.
- New Technology and Telephone equipment**
2214. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :
- (a) whether it is a fact that the main reasons for telephone breakdown is old and obsolete machinery of the department and not the telephone personnel;
 - (b) if so, whether Government have any plan to arrange for new technology and telephone equipments for the country;
 - (c) if so, details thereof; and
 - (d) if there is no plan for replacing old machines, the reasons thereof ?
- THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA):**
- (a) No, Sir. The breakdown of telephone service is mainly due to cable failures during monsoon.
 - (b) The Department however, has planned to induct modern technology

and equipments to improve the telephone service.

(c) Following steps are being taken to modernise the telephone network :

- (1) Introduction of sophisticated electronic telephone exchanges to avoid problems inherent with the electro magnetic switching equipment.
- (2) Provision of high grade inter-exchange circuits on digital microwave system and optical fibre system and to provide better quality and more dependable service.
- (3) Computerisation of special services, cable records, fault repair service, billing and administration for efficiency and accuracy.

4. Laying of main cables in ducts to protect them from external damage.

(d) Old machines which have out-lived their normal lives will be replaced progressively depending upon the resources.

Construction of Phosphatic Fertilizer Plant at Paradeep in Orissa

2215. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-NAIK : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of construction of Phosphatic Fertilizer Plant at Paradeep in Orissa and when it will be commissioned;

(b) what is the expansion programme of this project and when will this programme be taken up;

(c) whether an ancillary industry programme has been drawn up around this major project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) The progress of construction of the phosphatic fertilizer plant at Paradeep is satisfactory. The DAP plant is expected to be commissioned in March, 1986, and the Phosphoric Acid/Sulphuric Acid plants are scheduled to be completed by May, 1988.

(b) The Company has approached the Government with an expansion programme, which includes an ammonia and a soda ash plant. A decision on this can be taken only after the 7th Plan is finalised.

(c) and (d). A programme for development of ancilliary industry, covering HDPE bags and aluminium fluoride, has been drawn up by the Company.

Progress of onshore and offshore drilling for oil and natural gas in Orissa Coast

2216. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-NAIK :

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of onshore and offshore drilling for oil and natural gas in the Orissa Coast; and

(b) the findings so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Eight wells have been drilled in the offshore Mahanadi basin/North East coast of the Bay of Bengal. The last well is under production testing. No commercial discovery has been made so far.

Based on the results of the onshore surveys, one exploratory well is proposed to be drilled in 1985-86.