

(b) if so, the names of the companies and the divisions newly created;

(c) the basis of creation of such companies and divisions;

(d) whether there is any demand for creation of a coal company and division in Orissa; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (e). In view of the projected increase in production and investment contemplated for Central Coalfields Ltd. and Western Coalfields Ltd., the extensive geographical areas over which those two companies operate, the managerial, technical and communication problems etc. being encountered, the Government of India approved the formation of two new companies as subsidiaries of Coal India Limited, by splitting the Central Coalfields Ltd. and Western Coalfields Ltd. The two new companies, namely Northern Coalfields Limited with headquarters at Singrauli (M.P.) and South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. with headquarters at Bilaspur (M.P.) have been incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 w.e.f. 28.11.1985.

There have been representations for having a separate company/Division for Orissa. Since Ib Valley area, formerly under Western Coalfields Ltd. and Talcher area, formerly under Central Coalfields Ltd. have been put under the jurisdiction of South Eastern Coalfields Ltd., the interest of both these areas as also of the State of Orissa would be better subserved under the unified control of this company. There is no need at present to have a separate coal company for the coalfields in Orissa as the production level is not sufficient to justify formation of a separate company.

Letters of Intent and Industrial Licences Issued to Madhya Pradesh Government Undertakings

4738. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Letters of Intent/

Industrial Licences issued by Government to the State Government Undertakings in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years upto 15 March, 1986;

(b) the number of those which have come into production and the progress of implementation of other projects;

(c) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh have also entered into joint sector with some private entrepreneurs to implement those projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Between January 1, 1983 and March 15, 1985, 16 letters of intent and 7 industrial licences (including 2 carry-on-business licences) were granted to the State Government undertakings, including the State Industrial Development Corporation, in Madhya Pradesh. Since it generally takes about 3 to 4 years for an industrial project to fructify, the projects covered under these letters of intent/industrial licences would presently be at various stages of implementation.

(c) and (d). As per the guidelines issued by the Central Government, the SIDCs can associate competent private sector parties in implementing the industrial licences issued to them. However, details about such industrial projects as are being implemented by the State Industrial Development Corporations in association with private entrepreneurs are not being maintained centrally in the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals, Ministry of Industry.

Industrial Growth Centres approved for Madhya Pradesh during Sixth Plan

4739. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new industrial growth centres approved by Government for Madhya Pradesh during the Sixth Five Year Plan period;

(b) the details of total financial aid given to develop the infrastructure in these areas;

(c) whether Government have checked that the grant given to the State has been fully utilised; and

(d) if so, the details of expenditure incurred to develop various facilities in these growth centres during the Sixth Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d). During the Sixth Five Year Plan period, the Government of Madhya Pradesh had not identified any Growth Centre in the 'No-Industry Districts'. However, in September, 1985, the State Government identified six Growth Centres, one each in the 'No-Industry Districts' of Bhind, Mandla, Jhabua, Dhar, Panna, and Rajgarh and they have been approved by the Central Government. The State Government is yet to prepare the necessary project Reports.

Quality of Production of soft Coke

4740. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of soft coke has been steadily falling for the last one decade;

(b) if, so, the break-up of the figures of production each year with causes for the same;

(c) whether along with the fall in production the quality of soft coke produced has not improved during that period; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to improve both production and the quality of soft coke ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). The production of soft coke in Coal India Ltd. during the last 10 years has been as follows :

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Year	Production
1976-77	32.5
1977-78	29.3
1978-79	23.0
1979-80	24.2
1980-81	22.6
1981-82	22.9
1982-83	17.4
1983-84	14.7
1984-85	15.9
1985-86 (April-Feb.)	15.9

It would be seen from the above figures that though production declined from 1976 to 1983-84, the same has started improving from 1984-85 onwards. There has been a declining trend in the consumption of soft coke in big cities due to preference for other fuel for cooking like kerosene oil and LPG etc. Coal India Ltd. is making efforts to increase the production of soft coke in order to meet the overall demand of the States/Union Territories.

Steps have also been taken to improve the quality of soft coke by using better quality coal and by mechanising production of soft coke.

Effect of increase in coal price on end users

4741. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the annual consumption of coal by the railways, power plants, steel plants and fertiliser plants as per the consumption of each of these units during the last three years, year-wise;