

**Passenger Amenities at Railway Stations In Orissa**

2285. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given on 5 May, 1989 to Unstarred Question No. 8288 regarding upgradation of railway stations in Orissa and state:

(a) the progress so far made in making up the deficiencies in basic amenities, like platforms, waiting halls, drinking water, lighting, toilets; etc. at all railway stations in Orissa; and

(b) when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). An Action Plan has been formulated to identify deficiencies in respect of basic amenities, as per norms, at all the stations including those in Orissa. Action has been taken to ensure that these deficiencies are eliminated by 1990-91, subject to availability of funds

**Import of Coal**

2286. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government propose to continue import of coal;

(b) if so, the quantity and cost thereof during 1990-91;

(c) whether there is any plan for proper utilisation of coal through blending washing etc. to stop import; and

(d) if so, the likely investment during Eighth Plan as compared to that of Seventh Plan?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

During 1990-91, it is tentatively proposed to import 5.30 million tonnes of coking coal of CIF value Rs. 603.67 crores at current prices for use in Integrated Steel Plants.

(c) and (d). With a view to bring down the ash percentage of coal for supply to steel plants and thereby reduce imports, the coal companies have already taken up modernisation of washeries at an estimated cost of Rs. 132 crores to be completed by 1992-93. The total investment in washeries during the Seventh Plan period is expected to be about Rs. 168 crores and that in the Eighth Plan period has been tentatively estimated at Rs. 484 crores.

**Requirement of Coal and Lignite**

2287. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have estimated the requirement of coal and lignite during Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the shortage of coal is likely to continue during the Eighth Plan period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (d). The Eighth Five Year Plan for the development of coal and lignite industries is yet to be finalised.

**Frequency of Asansol-Bardhaman Local Train**

2288. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the frequency of the existing Asan-