

**Black Bond Scheme**

2173. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry had proposed a Black Bond Scheme for the petroleum sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry of Finance has since accorded its approval to the said proposal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

**Foetal disorders in women**

2174. DR. R. MALLU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether pesticides are causing serious foetal disorders in women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the existing laws on pesticides are vigorously implemented all over the country;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) There is no epidemiological data to indicate such a phenomenon.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

**Coking Coal Reserves**

2175. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) The estimated reserve of prime coking coal in the country; and

(b) the steps being taken to search new coking coal bearing areas to meet the country's metallurgical demand and to curb imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) The reserves of different varieties of coking coals in the country as estimated by Geological Survey of India (GSI) are 29360.68 million tonnes. Of these 5300 million tonnes are prime coking; 21964.08 million tonnes medium coking and 2096.60 million tonnes semi-coking type.

(b) Exploration work is in progress in Sohagpur Coalfield of Madhya Pradesh, Jharia, East Bokaro, West Bokaro, North Karanpura and South Karanpura Coalfields of Bihar, Raniganj Coalfield of West Bengal and Coalfields in North Eastern Region for locating coking coal reserves suitable for metallurgical use.