

[English]

**Hindustan Latex Limited**

3426. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the public sector Hindustan Latex Limited (HLL) is facing a large scale competition in the market;

(b) if so, the details with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have given directions to all the hospitals and Government institutions to purchase only HLL products;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to enable Hindustan Latex Limited to compete in the market?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) HLL is competing with other manufacturers on condoms. Copper T, *Surgical Gloves*, as there is no price preference allowed to public sector companies on Government purchases.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) HLL has to compete with other suppliers.

(e) HLL have been advised to strengthen their marketing to improve their market share.

**Open Cast Coal Mines**

3427. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to implement a long term plan to increase the production of coal from open cast coal mines;

(b) if so, the period of that long term plan;

(c) the target fixed for producing coal by the end of that long term plan; and

(d) the steps taken to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) to (c) The Eighth Five Year Plan 1992-97 of Government of India envisage increase in Coal production both from Underground mines and Opencast mines. During the period of Five Year, Coal production is expected to increase from level of 229.29 m.t. to 308 m.t. The production from opencast mines of CIL and SCCL is expected to increase from level of 155.79 m.t. (1991-92) to 212 m.t. (1996-97). However, production will depend on availability and Investment of Funds.

(d) The steps taken to increase Coal production *inter-alia* include opening of new mines, modernisation of existing mines, application of new technology, ensuring timely availability of inputs and infrastructural facilities, better capacity utilisation and maintaining good industrial relations.