

(c) whether any agreement with any foreign company/companies has also been signed for these projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by which the work on these projects is likely to commence; and

(f) the estimated increase in oil production during 1994-95 as compared to each of the previous three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS. (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (e). Besides a number of ongoing projects, Govt. have recently approved ONGC's project for the development of S-1 Sand field at a cost of Rs. 542.39 crores and South Heera Phase-II at a cost of Rs. 452.54 crores. Foreign companies include HHI, Daewoo-NPCC, Samsung of South Korea; KHI-CR of Japan; Soconord, OCTG of Belgium; ILVA of Italy and Europe of Germany. The new schemes mentioned above would be taken up on the award of contracts.

(f) Against the actual production of 18.963 million tonnes in 1991-92, 15.746 million tonnes in 1992-93 and 15.375 million tonnes in 1993-94, the production from this area during 1994-95 is expected to be about 19.818 million tonnes.

[Translation]

Coal Mines in Meghalaya.

6307. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal mines in Meghalaya

are the personal property of individuals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether coal from these mines is being exported by these persons to Bangladesh without any permission of the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b). Many of the coalfields in Meghalaya are small isolated and not amenable to systematic and scientific mining. Govt. of Meghalaya have informed that local tribals are undertaking coal mining operations claiming such mining as their traditional and customary right.

(c) to (e). According to information furnished by Government of Meghalaya coal is being exported from Meghalaya to Bangladesh by these persons after decanalisation of coal exports from July, 1991. The exporters are required to obtain export licence/code No. from the Central Government/Reserve Bank of India apart from no objection certificate from the State Government.

Ban on Book

6308. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (FEROZEPUR)
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:
SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
KAUR(DEEPA):

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the derogatory remarks made by a Pakistani writer in his controversial book "Tarikhe Mujahidin";

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken by the Government to impose ban on the book;

(c) If so the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have sent any protest letter to the Government of Pakistan in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). Yes sir, Ministry of Finance has already issued instructions to its field formations to detain copies of the book if import of it is noticed.

(d) and (e). The matter relating to the book 'Tarikhe Mujahidin' has been taken up through diplomatic channels. The Pakistan authorities have informed that the book Tarikhe-Mujahidin has been banned by the Government of Pakistan.

[English]

AIDS Control

6309. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the blood banks in the country have got the facilities to detect AIDS;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether WHO has advised the Government to have blood testing facilities in each blood bank; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE, (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (d). The strategic plan drawn up by the Government in consultation with WHO for the prevention and control of AIDS in the country envisages Blood safety and rational use of blood products. Government have established 150 Zonal Blood Testing Centres (ZBTCS) to do the HIV testing. Linkages with these ZBTCS have been provided to all the blood banks to facilitate this process. In addition, 372 District level blood banks, which are basically transfusion centres, are provided Rapid Test Kits for blood screening before transfusion.

Import of Medical Equipments

6310. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee had been appointed to probe irregularities in the import of medical equipments for hospitals in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its reports;