

far and in what respects the new policy represents and improvement on the existing investment policy ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) and (b) The private power policy of Government of India was notified on 15-10-1991 which is still in operation.

PRIVATISATION OF POWER SECTOR

1900. Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh : Will the Minister of Power be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received some representations from different organisations/unions against the privatisation of Power Sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) whether the Government propose to reconsider its earlier decision in the matter ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Power (Shrimati Urmilaben Chimanbhai Patel) : (a) to (c) The issue raised for and against the private power policy by various agencies in different fora are suitably addressed from time to time. The policy is modified from time to time, whenever necessary.

[Translation]

LOSSES BY MECL

1901. Shri Nitish Kumar :
Shri Nawal Kishore Rai :
Shri Jagmeet Singh Brar :
Shri Guman Mal Lodha :

Will the Minister of Mines be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) is running in loss since 1991;

(b) if so, the amount of loss suffered till March, 1995 and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this Corporation was one of the profit earning enterprises prior to 1991;

(d) if so, whether the Government had taken any measures to make it financially viable; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Mines (Shri Balram Singh Yadava) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The cumulative loss suffered by MECL till March, 1995 is Rs. 3727 lakhs. The main reason for the loss is reduction in availability of promotional as well as contractual exploration jobs.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The management of the Company has been asked to gear up its marketing strategy to improve the order Book position. The Ministry of Mines has also constituted

an Expert Committee in June, 1995 to formulate a Revival Plan for NECL.

INSPECTION REPORT OF L AND DO OF CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

1902. Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar : Will the Minister of Urban Affairs and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No, 1173 on March 2, 1994 and Unstarred Question No, 1098 on December, 14, 1994 and state :

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

(b) if so, whether the report of inspection carried out by L & D.O. of the Cultural institutions has been received; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment (Shri P. K. Thungon) : (a) to (c) The information collected by L & DO is being analysed and charges worked out as per guidelines.

MINERAL BASED PROJECTS IN GUJARAT

1903. Shri Chandresh Patel : Will the Minister of Mines be pleased to state :

(a) the names of areas in Saurashtra and Kutch regions of Gujarat, where mineral based projects have been set up from 1-1-91 to 31-7-95;

(b) the names of projects set up and the details of their expansion;

(c) the names of companies, which have set up these projects and the status thereof;

(d) the capacity of each of these projects, the area of land in acres, where these projects have been set up;

(e) the details of rules under which agreements were signed with each of them and the criteria and procedure followed in this regard; and

(f) the production capacity and the year-wise production of each of these projects and the efforts and programme proposed to increase their production ?

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Mines (Shri Balram Singh Yadava) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

MINISTER'S VISIT TO US

1904. Shri George Fernandes : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether during his recent visit to US, he had briefed the Clinton Administration and the U.S. Congress on the latest situation in Kashmir;

(b) if so, the reaction of the U.S. thereto;