

and demands of the employees of the District Rehabilitation Centre (DRC) at Bolinj, near Virar, in Thane district of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken so far to redress these grievances;

(d) whether the employees of DRC are entitled to avail facilities like GPF and other concessions which are generally available to all Union Government employees; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) The Hon'ble MP has forwarded a brief note containing some demands of employees of DRC Boling.

(b) The grievances relate to non-subscription towards G.F. Fund, non-member-ship of Group Insurance Scheme, Pension, promotion and other benefits as applicable to Government Employees.

(c) to (e). The DRC scheme was launched as a pilot project and the staff working in the DRCs are not considered as regular Government employees and as such the staff of DR scheme are not entitled to all the benefits available to regular Government employees.

New Broadcasting House for Air

944. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a New Broadcasting House for All India Radio (AIR) in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated cost of the project and the time by which the broadcasting house is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The New Broadcasting House with state-of-art facilities is being set up behind the existing Akashvani Bhawan at a cost of Rs.59.17 crores. The project is expected to be completed by the year 2000.

Postal Stamp

945. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government was requested to issue a commemorative postal stamp to honour late Shri C.D. Deshmukh;

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter;

(c) whether this proposal was placed before the Advisory Committee, if so, when; and

(d) the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal was received in August, 1995 for issue of a commemorative postage stamp on the late Shri C.D. Deshmukh.

(b) and (c). The proposal was placed before the Philatelic Advisory Committee which met on 15th February, 1996 for consideration.

(d) The Philatelic Advisory Committee after broadly considering all proposals for personality stamps, left the final selection to Minister for Communications. Decision will be taken shortly.

[Translation]

Losses in CIL

946. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :

SHRI N.K. BALIYAN :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coal producing units in the country which earned profit/incurred loss during each of the last three years alongwith the amount thereof;

(b) the details of the units which suffered loss during the above period;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether some of the units which are incurring loss have been referred to BIFR;

(e) if so, the details of such units and the recommendations of BIFR in this regard; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make the loss suffering units of CIL profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) The profit/loss earned/incurred by the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited during the last three years are as under:

Company	Profit(+)/loss(-) earned/incurred before adjustment to Coal Price Regulation Account (Rs. in crores)		
	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
ECL	- 354.28	- 477.98	- 575.54
BCCL	- 370.26	- 341.87	- 560.48
CCL	+ 136.36	+ 127.19	- 164.44
NCL	+ 335.36	+ 392.50	+ 430.87
WCL	+ 76.76	+ 84.17	+ 158.14
SECI	+ 348.39	+ 397.61	+ 463.40
MCL	+ 195.97	+ 206.97	+ 284.37
CMPDIL	+ 2.50	+ 2.64	+ 2.77
CIL/NEC/DOC	- 38.02	- 30.30	- 11.93
CIL (Total)	+ 332.88	+ 360.93	+ 27.16

It may be observed that two subsidiaries of Coal India Limited namely the Eastern Coal fields Limited and the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. and other units namely North Eastern Coalfields and Dankuni Coal Complex under the direct control of the Coal India incurred losses during the above period.

(c) The main reasons for losses are as under :-

- (i) Cost of underground mining per unit is generally higher than the cost of opencast mining. In BCCL and ECL proportion of underground production to the total production is higher than the CIL average.
- (ii) The average size of the mines in BCCL and ECL is small. The size of mine determines economics of the production.
- (iii) Many mines in BCCL and ECL have adverse geomining condition and require sand stowing. This adds to the cost of mining of coal.
- (iv) BCCL and ECL have surplus man-power and also suffer from inadequate and erratic supply of power.

(d) and (e). The BCCL and ECL have been referred to BIFR under the relevant provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 and these two companies are presently under hearing before the BIFR whose recommendations have not so far been received in the Ministry.

(f) The steps taken by the Government to reduce the losses and make the loss making subsidiaries/units of CIL profitable, include effective control of production cost, improvement of man-power planning including re-development scheme, trying out the concept of 'all man all jobs', improvement in availability and utilisation of heavy

earth moving machinery, implementation of cash and carry scheme in sale of coal and phasing out of un-economic mines.

[English]

Exploration of Blocks of Cambay Basin

947. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to entrust the work pertaining to the oil and natural gas exploration of some off-shore and on-shore blocks of Cambay Basins to the private sector; and

(b) if so, the details of the private companies to which the contract has been awarded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b) Government of India has so far approved the award of contracts for the exploration of Oil and Gas in the following blocks in the Cambay basin :

Block	Basin	Name of Company/ Consortium
I. CB-ON/2	Cambay Onshore	Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Limited (HOEC), Baroda, Gujarat State Petroleum Corp., Ltd., (GSPC), Ahmedabad Samson International, U.S.A.
II. CB-ON/7	-do-	Samson International Limited USA.
III. CB-OS/1	Cambay Offshore	Vaalco Energy Inc., USA, Tata Petrodyne (P) Limited, New Delhi, HOEC, Baroda.
IV. CB-OS/2	-do-	Command Petroleum Holding NL Australia, Tata Petrodyne (P) Limited, New Delhi.

Rural Development Plan

948. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any meeting of country planners congress was held at Delhi on February 2, 1996;

(b) if so, the matter discussed therein; and

(c) the outcome thereof?