

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir. Neither the Central Electricity Authority nor the Government has received any proposal for setting up Power Project with time-bound programme and with foreign collaboration within the area of a coal belt from the private sector.

(b) and (c). The questions do not arise.

Prospects of more power capacity due to good monsoon

6895. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the good monsoon have improved the prospects of more power supply;

(b) if so, what is the improvement made in regard to power supply in Karnataka State;

(c) whether power supply to the industries has been raised which were closed down due to power shortage in Karnataka; and

(d) by what time power supply to all industrial units will be restored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Karnataka has only hydro generation capacity and, therefore, with good monsoon during the current year, its hydro reservoirs are getting better inflows and the power supply position has also improved. Generation level of 7.5 million units a day in the beginning of June, 1980 has already gone up to about 18 million units a day at present. All power cuts on H.T. industries in Karnataka have also been lifted with effect from first week of July, 1980.

Soviet experts to advise Coal India Limited

6896. SHRI B. V. DESAI:

SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-SHEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Soviet experts are to advise Coal India Ltd. on the feasibility of opening a large open cast mine as also setting up corresponding washing facility in the Jharia field;

(b) if so, whether they have also stated that they will prepare a feasibility report for thick seam mining in the Makum coal fields of Assam;

(c) what are the total agreements signed by CIL with Russia; and

(d) the main features of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir. An agreement has been signed by the Coal India Ltd. with a Soviet Organisation for collection of initial data for the preparation of a Feasibility Report for 6—10 million tonnes year opencast mine with washery of corresponding capacity in Jharia coal-field.

(b) An agreement has also been signed by the Coal India Ltd. with a Soviet Organisation for advice on extraction of thick and steep seam in Makum coalfield.

(c) and (d). Since 1975, total number of 18 agreements have been signed by the Coal India Ltd. with the Soviet Organisations for underground mining technology, design of large open-cast mine projects and washeries, modernisation of coal washeries, mine construction etc.