

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide docking with LPG receiving facility on the West Coast of Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b) M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation proposes to set up LPG Import facilities at Mangalore, Karnataka at an estimated cost of Rs. 17,565 crores, including a foreign exchange component of Rs. 17-90 crores, with an annual import capacity of 6 lakh MT.

Gas-Based Projects in U. P.

3633. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh regarding allocation of gas to gas-based power projects in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Keeping in view the availability of gas and commitments already made along the HBJ pipeline, no further allocation has been made.

[Translation]

Coal Production

3634. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to adopt a new policy to increase the coal production in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the gap between production and consumption of coal is likely to be bridged?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) to (c) Govt. have formulated Eighth Five Year Plan in consultation with Planning Commission, with objective to increase coal production.

Coal production target by the terminal year of 8th Five Year Plan (1996-97) has been fixed at 308.00 m.t., with an annual growth of 6.08 per cent.

The estimated demand by terminal year of 8th Five Year Plan is 311.00 m.t. against

the above production target. The gap of 3 m.t. is proposed to be met by import of coking coal for steel plant and draw down of pit-head stock in case of non-coking coal.

[English]

Joint Sampling of Coal

3635. DR. K. D. JESWANI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have stopped the joint sampling of coal at the power stations;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the venue of joint sampling of coal has shifted from unloading and to loading end;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the names of State Electricity Board who have agreed to participate in joint sampling at loading end; and

(f) the facilities likely to be provided to SEBS to participate in the joint sampling at the loading end?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) :

(a) to (d) : Yes, Sir. Coal companies are responsible for supply of correct quality and quantity of coal at the pit head. This is also the point where the property in coal is transferred to the consumers or their transport agents. The quality and quantity of coal supplies have to be verified by the consumer at the point where he or his agent takes possession and any discrepancy regarding weight and quality should be sorted out on that basis. The legal responsibility of supplier ceases as soon as the property is transferred. This is also the position under Sales of Good Act.

Government has also taken a decision that an independent third party inspection agency for quality assurance in coal should be established, preferably through the Coal Controller's Organisation on a self financing basis. All such quality inspections should be done at the colliery end before despatch and not at the consumers end after receipt.

(e) According to information received from Coal India Ltd, following power stations have agreed for joint sampling at loading end. —

1. Tanda
2. Unchahar
3. Anpara
4. Singrauli STPS
5. Rihand
6. Vindhyachal
7. Amarkantak
8. Korba East
9. Korba West