

For fixation of royalty, coals have been divided into different groups based on their quality. Coals produced in Andhra Pradesh have been formed into a separate group. Similarly coals produced in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Nagaland have also been placed in a separate group for fixing rates of royalty. Further, while revising rates of royalty on coal w.e.f. 1-8-1991, the revised rates of royalty were not made applicable to the States of Assam and West Bengal since these States were continuing to levy and collect cases on coal.

[*Translation*]

Irrigation Projects

100. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of Karnali and Panchashwar irrigation projects; and

(b) the present position about Tanakpur dispute between India and Nepal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) Agreement on Karnali Project parameters have not been reached between India and Nepal. Joint Detailed Project Report of Pancheshwar Project could not be finalised due to non-completion of detailed surveys and investigations.

(b) The Project has started operating since March 1992 based upon the understanding reached at the Prime Minister's level. The acceptance by the Nepalese Parliament is awaited.

[*English*]

Oil Refineries

101. DR. KRUP ASINDHU BHOL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some foreign companies are keen to set up oil refineries in India :

(b) if so, the details of the foreign companies who have expressed their intentions in this regard ; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c) A few foreign parties have evinced interest in setting up of refineries in India. At present, the Oman Oil Company Limited has signed two separate Memoranda of Understanding on 13-3-1993 at Muscat to set up two refineries of 6 MMTPA each in Central India and Western India with BPCL and HPCL respectively.

Further, private parties having collaboration with foreign parties have also been issued Letters of Intent by the Government of India. The following are the names of such parties/companies :--

	Name of the Party/Company	Capacity	Location
1.	M/s. Reliance Petroleum Ltd. in collaboration with multilateral agencies/foreign institutions/foreign investors.	9 MMTPA	Salaya, Jamnagar, Gujarat.
2.	M/s. Ashok Leyland with Gotco of USA	6 MMTPA	Orissa.
3.	M/s. Essar Investments Ltd. with M/s. Chandaria Group, Switzerland.	9 MMTPA	Vadinar, Gujarat.
4.	M/s. International Petroleum S.A. (BVI), Switzerland.	5 MMTPA (Expandable to 10 MMTPA)	West Coast, Gujarat.
5.	M/s. T.R. Datla, Hyderabad (M/s. Black Gold Refineries Ltd.) in collaboration with M/s. Phoenix Engg. Corporation, USA.	2.5 MMTPA	Visakhapatnam.