

13-2-1981. Royalty rates with effect from 1-8-1975 ranged from Rs. 1.00 per tonne to Rs. 5.00 per tonne while with effect from 13-2-1981 it ranged from Rs. 2.50 per tonne to Rs. 7.00 per tonne.

(b) The royalty on coal is collected by the coal companies from the consumers of coal in addition to the pit-head prices of coal fixed by the Central Government and is passed on to the State Governments concerned. The impact of revision of rates of royalty on coal on the consumers had not been significant.

(c) Section 9(3) of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 empowers the Central Government to hance or reduce the rate of royalty en on minerals including coal once during a period of four years.

(d) After nationalisation the average pit-head prices of coal have been revised six times as under :

Date of revision	Average pit-head price per tonne of coal produced by	
	CIL	SCCL
1-4-1974	Rs. 47.59	Rs. 50.50
1-7-1975	Rs. 64.92	Rs. 67.65
17-7-1979	Rs. 101.18	Rs. 99.92
14-2-1981	Rs. 128.02	Rs. 136.85
27-5-1982	Rs. 145.90	Rs. 154.75
8-1-1984	Rs. 183.00	Rs. 192.00

Production per man shift in Coal Mines

2961. SHRI LALITESHWAR SHAHI: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the production per man shift in our coal mines compared to other coal producing countries; and

(b) how it can be augmented in the existing conditions ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The average production per man-shift during 1984-85 (upto December, 1984) in the coal mines of Coal India Ltd., and Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd., is as under :

CIL

0.81 Tons.

SCCL

0.68 Tons.

However, productivity in the coal industry in other advanced coal producing countries is higher than that of India.

Under the existing conditions, the productivity in India can be augmented in the following manner :

- (i) by mechanisation;
- (ii) by adopting advanced technology;
- (iii) by re-deployment of surplus labour;
- (iv) by having more open cast mining; and
- (v) by improving the working conditions in coal mines.

Review of the Working of Hindustan Diamond Corporation

2962. SHRI B. K. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hindustan Diamond Corporation has fulfilled the needs for which it was set up;

(b) whether there is any proposal to modify its pattern of working so that dependence on monopolistic supplier like Diamond Trading Corporation would lessen;

(c) whether almost all the sight holders of Diamond Trading Corporation are from Gujarat and have their business in diamonds at Bombay;

(d) whether Government propose to initiate any action to break the monopolistic hold of diamond trade both imports and exports;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) if so, the details therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Hindustan Diamond Company buys rough diamonds also from open market,