

[Translation]

**Supply of Good Quality Coal to Thermal Power Plants in Uttar Pradesh**

3799. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has received complaints from the Uttar Pradesh Government that the thermal power plants situated in Uttar Pradesh are not getting supplies of good quality coal in time; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by his Ministry to ensure the supply of good quality coal in time to the thermal power plants situated in Uttar Pradesh ?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :**

(a) The Uttar Pradesh Government had complained about receipt of coal of low calorific value and of presence of extraneous materials in the coal, and also about inadequate supplies to some of the power stations of Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board.

(b) To ensure proper sizing and removal of extraneous material, coal handling plants are being constructed at the collieries. In the meanwhile the coal companies have been directed to ensure manual breaking of bigger pieces and picking of extraneous materials. Strict supervision at all levels has resulted in remarkable improvement in quality.

As regards quantity, Railways have been requested to move coal on priority to power stations having low stocks. The position of coal stocks is constantly reviewed at various levels to build up stocks.

[Translation]

**Opening of A Branch of SBI at Chilyanola in Almora District**

3800. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to open a branch of State Bank of India at Chilyanola in Almora district in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which this branch is likely to be opened ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :**

(a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that it has recently received a proposal from the State Bank of India for opening its office at Chilyanola, District Almora, Uttar Pradesh. This proposal will be considered by Reserve Bank under its branch licensing policy for the Seventh Plan period which is being finalised.

[English]

**Efforts made to take Final decision on Recommendations made by Tripathi Committee.**

3801. SHRI S. M. GURADDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any further attempt or efforts are being made to consult the Chief Ministers to take a final decision on the Tripathi Committee's recommendations on the replacement of sales tax by additional excise duties on five commodities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :**

(a) and (b) At the Chief Ministers Conference held on 2-11-1983, it was unanimously resolved that efforts should be continued to bring about consensus among the State Governments on Tripathi Committee's Report. As sales tax is mainly a State subject of taxation, any reform in the sales tax system can be undertaken only in consultation with and cooperation of the States. Efforts made so far have not resulted in reaching a consensus.

**Gold Deposit in Neelambur Area of Kerala**

3802. SHRI G. G. SWELL : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether a good deposit of gold was found in the Neelambur area of Kerala recently ;

(b) the other areas of the country where gold has been discovered ; and

(c) whether the deposit in Neelambur is commercially viable ?