

[Translation]

Saving of Power

2162. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether keeping in view the shortage of power, Govt. propose to take steps for saving power and to increase its availability in major sectors ;

(b) whether Government are conducting any study to find out those areas/industries/offices where power can be saved ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) how much power is expected to be saved/made available thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (d) It is proposed to implement energy conservation measures in the industrial, agricultural, domestic and commercial areas to save power to the maximum extent possible. The measures envisaged include providing details by companies in regard to energy consumption in their annual audited accounts, use of energy efficient pumpsets, and laying down norms of consumption of electricity in various appliances and equipments. The other measures identified relate to improving the output of motor-drive furnaces and transformers and in illumination of factories and shopfloors etc.

[English]

Revised scheme of incentives for industries in backward areas

2163. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are formulating a new revised scheme of incentives for the industrialization of backward areas ;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ; and

(c) whether while implementing this, special consideration will be given to the industrialization of backward areas of Eastern U. P., particularly Allahabad District ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. An Inter-Ministerial Committee has been constituted to review and revise the existing scheme of incentives for setting up industries in 'No-Industry Districts'/Backward Areas. The Committee would formulate the revised incentive scheme based on the concept of growth centres and distance criteria and with emphasis on the development of infrastructure, with special components of the scheme being designed for hill areas and the North East and other remote areas, keeping in view also the suitability of various types of industries for location in these areas from the environmental angle.

The Committee is expected to submit its report by the end of this year.

Review of Policy regarding coking coal mining and washing

2164. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an urgent need to review the present policy regarding the coking coal mining and washing as the present system is producing inferior coking coal high ash content ;

(b) if so, whether any study has been made in this regard ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the suggestions/recommendations made thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) Due to depletion of reserves of better grade of coking coal, ash content of coking coal presently being mined has increased. Therefore, improved technology for washing of coal is required. The Department of Coal appointed a Technical Working Group to