

(b) whether at Patna such casual workers have launched a boycott week; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet their grievances ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The P and T Department has been paying Bonus to all casual labourers who have worked for at least 240 days for each year for 3 years or more, as per terms of agreement with the staff unions.

(b) No such boycott was launched in Patna.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Collaboration with USSR in the Field of Portable Solar Power Plants

1272. SHRI K. S. RAO : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the programme for the development of portable solar power plants in collaboration with USSR scientists has been completed; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

Spurious and Sub-Standard parts of vehicles causing Accidents

1273. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether apart from faulty designs of our vehicles, large number of spurious and sub-standard parts in the market lead to accidents;

(b) whether Government propose to suitably amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 to meet new needs; and

(c) whether Government propose to ensure easy availability of standard parts at

correct prices by arranging sale through Super Bazars and other co-operative outlets and by setting up authorised public distribution centers to overcome the present profiteering and speculative practices in automobile spares market ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Though sale of spurious and sub-standard automotive spare parts in the market has been brought to the notice of the Government, no specific incident has been reported which has resulted in accident due to spurious and sub-standard parts.

(b) Ministry of Transport will shortly be coming forward with a proposal to amend the Motor Vehicle Act to empower the Central Government to make rules for laying down standards and norms for automotive parts.

(c) With a view to discourage the sale and manufacture of spurious and sub-standard automotive parts Government have taken steps to augment the production of quality components through delicensing of the industry and also through modernisation and introduction of latest technology in this sector. Government have also extended certain fiscal concessions to the auto ancillary industry to encourage production of quality components.

Illegal Coal mining in Bihar

1274. SHRI SIMON TIGGA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the action taken to stop illegal coal mining in Bihar;

(b) the action taken to stop exploitation of the coal miners by the labour Sardars; and

(c) the action initiated by Government to stop the system of sub-contract and petty contract in mining ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act was amended in 1976

prohibiting any person other than those authorised by the Act, to carry on coal mining in India in any form and terminating all leases relating to winning or mining of coal granted in favour of private parties except those engaged in production of iron and steel. Illegal coal mining was also made a cognizable offence and is punishable with imprisonment for a term extending to three years and fine extending to Rs. 20,000. The Supreme Court in their judgements dated 11-4-1980 and 7-5-1980 have upheld the vires of these provisions.

After these judgements, illegal mining of coal has been curbed to a great extent. However, the coal belt is vast and certain persons at times violate the provisions of law and indulge in illegal extraction of coal sporadically and stealthily. The State Government and coal companies have been asked to take concerted action against the offenders. The State Government has already issued instructions to District authorities to take punitive and preventive action under the Act read with Indian Penal Code. The coal companies have also been directed to report to the authorities concerned as and when illegal extraction of coal is detected. Besides, the coal companies in conjunction with the State Government law enforcing authorities conduct regular raids to apprehend the offenders.

(b) Workers are recruited and paid directly by the companies and there is no system of engagement of labour Sardars for this purpose.

(c) Government have prohibited the engagement of contract labour in a large number of job categories and the coal companies are complying with the provisions of the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act.

**Technological upgradation through
Modernisation of Small
Scale Sector**

1275. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a subsidy scheme to bring about technological upgradation through

modernisation of the small scale sector has been drawn up by the Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries in his Ministry;

(b) if so, its salient features; and

(c) how it will be implemented for revamping small scale industries throughout the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

**Power Generation Capacity of Power
Station to be set up in
Maharashtra**

1277. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to double the power generation during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the power generation capacity of the power stations to be set up in Maharashtra and the places in the State where these stations are proposed to be set up; and

(c) the amount proposed to be spent on these power stations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The installed capacity in the country at the end of the Sixth Plan was about 42440 MW in utilities. A Capacity addition of 22245 MW is envisaged in the Seventh Plan period.

(b) and (c). Capacity addition envisaged in the Seventh Plan in Maharashtra together with the approved outlay are indicated in the Statement given below.