

mine to Chandrapur thermal power station of Maharashtra State Electricity Board is being taken up. The viability of coal slurry transportation in the country can be established based on the outcome of this demonstration project.

**Safety of Workers in Collieries of  
B.C.C.L. Dhanbad, Bihar**

1412. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the workers engaged in collieries of Bharat Coking Coal Limited, Dhanbad, Bihar are unsafe;

(b) if so, the number of workers died in the collieries of Bharat Coking Coal Limited during the last one year;

(c) the main cause of such accidents;

(d) the details of the compensation paid by Government to the next of the kin; and

(e) the steps contemplated by Government to safeguard the interest of the workers engaged in collieries of Bharat Coking Coal Limited, Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). The workers engaged in collieries of Bharat Coking Coal Limited are not unsafe. However, coal mining industry is a hazardous industry and as such possibility of accidents cannot altogether be ruled out. During 1984 there had been 28 fatalities. The main causes of these accidents were roof fall and rope haulage. An amount of Rs. 8,57,046 has, so far, been paid to the dependents of the deceased.

(e) To minimise accidents steps have been taken to improve the roof support system and to provide safe travelling roadways, separate from haulage roads.

**Mining of coal at Bandargaon in  
Maharashtra**

1413. SHRI VILLAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of coal in million tonnes that has been permitted to be mined at Bandargaon in Maharashtra indicating the total coal available there;

(b) the time by which the said mining work is proposed to be started and the number of persons likely to get employment alongwith the percentage of local people likely to be provided jobs; and

(c) the time by which compensation is likely to be paid to those persons whose land will be acquired for this purpose indicating the rate of compensation and the details of the policy formulated by Government to give them jobs ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Bander coalfield situated in Chimur Tehsil of Chandrapur District of Maharashtra was regionally explored by Director General Mines of Maharashtra. A reserve of 90 m. tonnes has been estimated in six seams in an area of 7.6 sq.k.m. No permission has been granted for mining of coal in these coalfields. The coalfields are located in an isolated patch located 60/65 kms. away from current mining areas. Detailed prospecting with a view to ascertaining the mining feasibility of this block has been taken up and the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited are taking action for starting drilling in this area. Development of this mine has been included in the Seventh Five Year Plan. Number of jobs to be provided depends upon the overall employment potential of the project. No project has yet been conceived and hence question of land acquisition and payment of compensation does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Parity in the Royalty of Crude  
Oil and Coal**

1414. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOJ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the State Governments have demanded parity in the crude oil royalty and coal royalty;

(b) if so, whether Government have acceded to the demand of these States;

(c) if so, the rate of royalty decided for crude oil and for coal separately; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[*English*]

**Representation of Petroleum and Natural Gas Employes Federation in Gujarat**

1415. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the managements have received a charter of demands from the Unions, Associations and Federations of the employees and officers of petroleum and natural gas in Gujarat as well as from other parts of the country during 1-1-1984 to 31-10-1985;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken thereon by each management; and

(d) the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Proposal to establish motor industry in Gujarat in collaboration with Volkswagon of West Germany**

1416. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI :  
SHRI U. H. PATEL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any proposals from Mehta Group of Industries to establish a motor industry in Gujarat with the collabo-

ration of 'Volkswagon' of Federal Republic of Germany;

(b) if so, the plans, projects and estimates thereof;

(c) when the said project is likely to be constructed and completed; and

(d) the facilities which will be offered and given to Gujarat Government and the above group to establish the same in the backward areas ?

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

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

**New Technology Replacing Underground Cable System**

1417. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether keeping in view the problems of repairing underground cable system of telecommunication, Government propose to introduce some new technology to replace age-old underground cable system;

(b) if so, the details of the new technology; and

(c) if not, the effective measures Government propose to take for improving the working of telephone system.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the larger cities the cables are proposed to be laid in specially constructed ducts. Use of jelly filled cables is also being adopted.

(c) Does not apply.

**Restructuring of Directorate General of Technical Development**

1418. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :