

(c) Seismic surveys in onshore Orissa begun in November, 1981. Approximately 3800 line kms. of survey was carried out by two contract crews and completed by September, 1984. The seismic data were processed and interpreted by OIL's Geoscientists and a number of prospective locations have been identified. It is planned that 8 exploratory wells will be drilled during the 7th Plan period beginning June-July, 1986.

[*Translation*]

Report of Chari Committee on Working of Eastern Coalfields Ltd.

2197. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Chari Committee had submitted its recommendations in November, 1985 for bringing about improvements in the working of Eastern Coalfields Ltd., commercial exploitation of coal deposits and enhancement of the production of coal therein; and

(b) if so, the details of these recommendations and the reaction of Government to each recommendation ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). A Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri K.S.R. Chari, Consultant and former Secretary, Department of Coal was appointed in April, 1985 to make an indepth study of the working of the Eastern Coalfields Limited with a view to identifying the various problems plaguing the Company and finding out remedial steps/measures to be undertaken to get over those problems in order to enable the company to achieve its main objectives of scientific development of coal reserves in its jurisdiction, increasing coal production and implementing other schemes for development and welfare. The Committee has submitted its report in November, 1985 which is under examination.

[*English*]

Thermal Power Plant at Majia

2198. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether 600 MW thermal power plant proposed by Damodar Valley Corporation at Mejia has been held up; and

(b) the steps being taken to remove the bottlenecks in its way ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The thermal power project at Mejia will be taken up for implementation after clearance under the Forest Conservation Act, which is being expedited, has been received.

[*Translation*]

Waiting List for New Telephone Connections in Uttar Pradesh

2199. SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons in the waiting list for telephone connections in Uttar Pradesh at present;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to provide them telephone connections at an early date; and

(c) the names of places where telephone exchanges are proposed to be set up during the Seventh Five Year Plan and the likely capacity of each of the proposed exchanges ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Uttar Pradesh as on 31-1-1986 is 39,525.

(b) Steps are being taken to provide telephone connections to most of them during the 7th Five Year Plan period depending on the availability of resources.

(c) Some of the major places, where telephone exchanges are proposed to be set up or expanded with net increase in capacity during the 7th Five Year Plan, are as follows :

1. Agra	5,000 Lines
2. Allahabad	5,000 „
3. Kanpur	16,800 „
4. Lucknow	17,000 „
5. Meerut	6,000 „
6. Mussourie	1,500 „
7. NOIDA	4,000 „
8. Varanasi	5,600 „

[English]

DMT Plant Imported by Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Ltd.

2200. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have ordered an enquiry against Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Ltd. for misleading Government regarding the life of the D.M.T. plant imported by the firm; and

(b) if so, how far Government have succeeded in ascertaining the facts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Complaints of Defective Washers in L.P.G. Cylinders

2201. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of large number of complaints about the risks and inconvenience caused to the consumers of LPG because of the defective rubber washer in LPG cylinders;

(b) whether Government are also aware of the complaints of distributors of LPG cylinders that out of 400 cylinders received by them more than 50 cylinders in the lot are either without washer or with damaged washer; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to minimise risks involved in defective use of rubber washers in LPG cylinders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Some complaints about defective rubber washers in LPG cylinders are received by the oil marketing companies in the course of their business operation.

(b) The percentage of such cases is negligible.

(c) At all the bottling plants, every filled cylinder is checked with Compact Valve Tester, for ascertaining the presence and proper functioning of the rubber washer. Dealers are also under instructions to check the rubber washers before delivering the cylinders to the consumers.

Possession of Land Acquired for Telephone Exchange at Race Course, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

2202. SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that land was acquired at a cost of Rs. 7.35 lakhs during 1979 for the use of Telephone Exchange department at Race Course, Coimbatore from the State Government of Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether the said amount has been paid by the Union Government to State funds;

(c) if so, the details thereof and in not, reasons thereof; and

(d) the reasons for delay in taking possession of the land by the Union Government ?

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

(b) and (c). An amount of Rs. 7.53 lakhs was paid to the Revenue Authorities on their demand.