

any Commercial/business complex.

Dredging for Utilisation of Hooghly River Channel

4104. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2073 on 31st July, 1986 regarding Dredging in Hooghly river channel and state:

(a) the object to be attained by dredging silt/earth in terms of the total tonnage of shipping which could utilise the Hooghly river shipping channel;

(b) the total utilisation of the shipping channel in terms of maximum tonnage of vessels using the channel as well as the percentage of the capacity of the channel which was utilised; and

(c) the stretches of the river requiring dredging and the frequency of such dredging?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Through dredging and the River Training Works in the Hooghly Shipping Channel, it is proposed to facilitate the arrival of fully loaded 14,000 DWT vessels (upto 7.9 M draft) to Calcutta Port and 40,000 DWT vessels (upto 10.67 M draft) to Haldia Dock Complex.

(b) It is not possible to assess the utilisation of shipping channel in terms of the tonnage of vessels.

(c) The stretches of the river requiring dredging are presently Moyapur, Falta,

Nurpur, Balari, Jellingham, Auckland, and Middleton, at 18, 26, 50, 62, 72 and 88 nautical miles respectively downstream of Calcutta. These stretches are generally dredged every year depending on availability of dredgers.

Import of Coking Coal

4105. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 833 on 2 March, 1987 regarding import of coking coal and state:

(a) the details of specifications of coking coal imported for Coke Oven;

(b) the sources from which imports were made; and

(c) the concrete projects which have been taken up to increase production of the most suitable quality of indigenous coking coal available in the country and how much expenditure has been incurred on each such project till date?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Metallurgical coking coal containing 10% ash (Maximum) is being imported for use in coke ovens in the steel industry.

(b) So far the imports of coking coal have been made from Australia, Poland USA and Canada.

(c) Following projects have been taken up to step up the production of indigenous coking coal of appropriate quality in the country:

Name of the Project.	Targeted production capacity (in million tonnes/annum)	Expenditure (Provisional) incurred upto Sept., 1987 (Rs. in crores)
Moonidih underground Mine	2.10	140.12
Pootkee - Bulliary underground Mine.	300	50.00
Bhalgora underground Mine.	1.20	17.94
Block-II Open Cast Project	2.50	95.47
Damodar Open Cast Project	1.00	27.52

In addition to above, Madhuband and Pootkee washeries are being set up at an estimated cost of Rs. 71.90 crores and Rs. 92.17 crores respectively and Patherdih washery is being modernised at an estimated cost of Rs. 27.27 crores.

Survey of Minerals in West Bengal

period of operation are:

4106. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether survey for mineral deposits has been conducted in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the area covered so far, and the minerals for which survey has been made and the period when it was made; and

(c) the result of survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Intensive and extensive surveys to locate mineral deposits have been carried out in West Bengal. The major minerals for which surveys have been made by the Geological Survey of India with location and

1. Lead-Zinc in Gorubathan area (1972-84), Darjeeling district.
2. Copper in Tamakhun area (1970-74), Purulia district.
3. Apatite in Beldim-Kuthi-Chirugora area, Purulia district.
4. Limestone in Jhaldah area (1958-59) and 1973-80, Purulia distt.
5. Dolomite in Jainti area, Jalpaiguri district (1965-67, 1977-80).
6. Tungsten in Chhendapathar and Porapahar area (1964-67, 1977-79), Bankura district.
7. Clay in Birbhum, Bankura, Burdwan, Midnapur and Purulia districts (1960-69).