

Demand of West Bengal Government for Higher Royalty on Coal

885. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of West Bengal have since demanded of higher rate of Royalty on coal; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demand of the Government of West Bengal is being examined.

ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों की मट्टियों को कोयले की सप्लाई

886. श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पांडेय : क्या ऊर्जा और सिंचाई तथा कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ग्रामीण विकास के लिए अपेक्षित कोयले की सप्लाई के मार्ग में आने वाली कठिनाइयों को दूर करने और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों की मट्टियों को मुलभत्ता से कोयले की सप्लाई सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कार्यवाही करने पर विचार कर रही है ;

(ख) क्या वह पिछड़े क्षेत्रों के विकास के लिए कोयले की सप्लाई के सम्बन्ध में कुछ सुविधा देने के प्रयत्न पर विचार कर रही है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उमका व्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण है ?

ऊर्जा और सिंचाई तथा कोयला मंत्री (श्री ए० बी० ए० एनी जाल चौधरी) : (क) रेलवे के साथ परामर्श करके कोयले के संचालन को बढ़ाने के लिए कार्रवाई की गई है जिसमें ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के उपभोक्ताओं को भी लाभ मिलेगा ।

(ख) में (घ) राज्यों के भीतर कोयले की सप्लाई का विनियमन राज्य सरकारें करती हैं । उन्हें विभिन्न वर्गों के उपभोक्ताओं को कोयले के वितरण का रूप निश्चित करने के अधिकार दिए गए हैं ।

Issue of Advertisements by U.P. State Electricity Board

887. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that U.P. State Electricity Board, Lucknow, had included, a local daily newspaper published from Aligarh, in the regular list of Board for publication of advertisements vide its letter No. 12060/PR/SEB/79-11/1977 dated 10th December, 1979; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that U.P. State Electricity Board, Lucknow, and its field offices issued advertisements after the 10th December, 1979 to other daily newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). The matter relates to the State Government. The information is being collected from the concerned State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Intensification of Rural Electrification Programme

888. DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Ministry are considering a proposal to intensify the rural electrification programme in the next four months;

(b) if so, whether he has asked the Chairman of the Rural Electrification Corporation and the Department of Power to prepare *ad hoc* schemes for implementation by State Electricity Boards;

(c) if so, whether the Chairmen of all the State Electricity Boards were called to Delhi to finalise the implementation schemes;

(d) if so, what are the schemes likely to be implemented in the J. & K. State; and

(e) whether the J. & K. State Government has asked more funds to implement their schemes which they had prepared earlier?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) and (b). In consultation with the State Electricity Boards, the Rural Electrification Corporation has arrived at a programme for accelerated implementation of rural electrification projects financed by it. The State Electricity Boards have indicated specific targets in respect of works to be completed in the next four months.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In the State of Jammu and Kashmir, the R.E.C. has approved 66 schemes upto 29-2-1980 for electrification of 4160 new villages of which 2556 have already been electrified upto September, 1979. It is expected that another 200 villages will be electrified in the next four months.

(e). No request has been received from the Jammu and Kashmir Electricity Board for additional funds over and above the financial assistance already sanctioned in respect of the approved schemes.

Proposal to set up a T.V. Centre at Surat

889. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a T.V. Centre or relaying Station at Surat in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government will consider to implement the great demand of the people to set up a T.V. Centre or relaying station at Surat?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c). Due to

constraints on financial resources and low priority accorded to T.V. expansion, there is at present no proposal to set up either a T.V. Centre or a relay Centre at Surat during the current Plan period (1978—83). The suggestion will, however, be borne in mind at the time of formulating plans of T.V. expansion in future.

Upper Indravati Project, Orissa

890. SHRI RASA BEHARI BEHERA: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated cost of "Upper Indravati Project" of Orissa and the target fixed for completing the project; and

(b) how many acres of land will be irrigated by this project and how many M.W. of electricity will be produced by the "Upper Indravati Project"?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) The Upper Indravati Project was approved by Planning Commission in May 1978 for an estimated cost of Rs. 208.14 crores. The project is targeted to be completed in 1987-88.

(b) The project envisages annual irrigation of 1.85 lakh hectares (4.57 lakh acres) and generation of 227 MW of power at 100 per cent load factor.

Production of Electricity by Damodar Valley Corporation

891. SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Damodar Valley Corporation is not producing electricity according to its capacity;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Government to optimise its production; and