

**Proposal from France to explore Coal Deposits in India and to develop alternative sources of Energy**

278. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:

SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI:

Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that France has indicated its willingness to help India to explore its coal deposits and buying back part of the production;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that it has indicated its willingness to assist India in a big way in its energy resources development programme;

(c) whether France has also indicated its willingness to assist India in developing alternative sources of energy and commission of energy; and

(d) if so, India's reaction thereto and when the final agreement is likely to be reached in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) Yes. France has indicated its willingness to help India in developing Coal deposits. They have also shown interest in purchase of coal from India. Proposals have been received from a French Company for assistance in developing three mining projects.

(b) to (d). There are also agreements for research and development in the field of nuclear power production, and renewable energies, like, Solar energy, wind energy etc.

A nuclear power station is in an advanced stage of construction at Kalpakkam and two heavy water plants have been set up with French Assistance. Central Electricity Authority and Electricity de France have identified several areas for collaboration in the field of generation and transmission of electricity. EDF France have

recently sent a proposal to CEA for providing assistance in the field of Tidal Power Development.

**Committee on Judicial Reforms**

279. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:

SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY:

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry is considering a proposal to set up a 3-Member Committee under a Supreme Court Judge to go into the question of judicial reforms in the country;

(b) if so, when the same is likely to be set up;

(c) what are the main objects of this proposed Committee;

(d) whether the Committee will also be asked to examine the Law Commission's report on arrears in High Courts and Supreme Court and recommend measures for the expeditious disposal of cases; and

(e) when the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) to (e). A proposal to set up a Committee to go into the question of judicial reforms is under consideration.

**Import of Petroleum Products due to Assam Oil Blockade**

280. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Assam oil blockade since January had compelled Government to import additional tonnes of kerosene, diesel and fuel amounting upto 2,80,000 tonnes;