

constituency were used in another constituency by reason of an inadvertent mistake. In the constituencies concerned, the number of contesting candidates was equal and consequently the size of the ballot paper was the same. While stitching the bundles of ballot papers in the press, the ballot papers of one constituency got mixed up with ballot papers of another constituency and got stitched. At the time of the issue of the ballot papers, this mistake was not detected. The Chief Electoral Officer, Madhya Pradesh has issued necessary instructions to the Returning Officers to be more careful in checking ballot papers at the time of their issue.

Misappropriation of coal allotted to coal dealers of Jullundur (Punjab)

5088. SHRI SUNDER SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) number of complaints received by Government regarding misappropriation of coal allotted to coal dealers of Jullundur (Punjab);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). A complaint has been received about the clandestine dealings in coal by certain coal dealers using forged documents for getting coal/coke released from Regional Office of coal India at Chandigarh with a view to blackmarketing in coal & coke.

(c) Coal India has started an investigation into these allegations and the matter has also been brought to the notice of Government of Punjab, for appropriate action at their end.

Profits and loss of Sindri Fertiliser Plant

5089. SHRI MOHD. ASRAR AHMAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise loss or profits of Sindri Plant of Fertiliser Corporation of India for the last four years;

(b) the factors which contributed towards the losses or profits;

(c) the action taken to rectify the same, if any; and

(d) whether the plant is working, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) The year-wise loss of Sindri unit of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited for the last four years is given below:

Year	Loss (Rs. lakhs)
1976-77	1785
1977-78	2244
1978-79	1836
1979-80	4189 (Provisional)

(b) The factors that contributed to the losses are:

(i) Ageing of the old Sindri plants and consequent increase in operationed and maintenance cost.

(ii) Low utilisation of capacity arising due to ageing of plants, poor quality of raw materials, etc.

(iii) Initial stabilisation problems and low utilisation of capacity in the new plants at Sindri due to raw material shortage and equipment problems.

(iv) Increase in prices of inputs and labour.

(c) The old Sindri plants have, except the ammonium sulphate plant, which has since been renovated, have been scrapped. This Sindri Moderni-