

State	Losses%
Andhra Pradesh	21.27
Karnataka	22.55
Kerala	12.36
Tamil Nadu	19.05
Pondicherry	13.92
Lakshadweep	21.84
Southern Region	21.31
Assam	20.26
Manipur	67.14
Meghalaya	7.07
Nagaland	35.79
Tripura	35.80
Arunchal Pradesh	26.29
Mizoram	9.09
North Eastern Region	23.33
ALL INDIA	20.02

Explosion in Kothaguden Thermal Power Station

2078. SHRI R. PRABHU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an explosion occurred in the seventh unit of the Kothaguden Thermal Power Station on the night of September, 3; and

(b) if so, what were the causes of the explosion and the total loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Low purity hydrogen gas in the generator, which was below the per-

missible limit of 92 per cent, is suspected to have been ignited by a flash over from one of the generator stator coils to earth. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited have been entrusted to undertake the repairs at their works at Hyderabad. The loss will be assessed after dismantling of the generator by BHEL at their works.

Minimising inventory for Crude Oil

2079. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state steps taken by Government to maintain a minimum inventory of crude oil for the coming days?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): It is proposed to increase the crude oil storage capacity in order to maintain the inventory position to 45 days requirements.

Grievances of Teacher of Model English High School run by F.C.I.

2080. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the grievances of the teachers of Model English High School, Sindri, under the Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd., continuing for years, if so, details of that;

(b) whether there was a letter from the Personnel Manager, F.C.I. Ltd., to the General Manager, Sindri Unit dated 20th August, 1979 suggesting some corrective steps to meet their grievances; and

(c) if so, steps taken on that?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) There were some grievances of the Teachers and Head Mistress of Model English High School, Sindri, but these have since been settled.

(b) The Personnel Manager, Central Office, FCI wrote to the General Manager, Sindri Unit, on 20-8-1979 proposing pay scale of Rs. 650—1200 for the Head Mistress of Model English High School, Sindri with effect from 1-5-1976, the day on which the School was affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education.

(c) The proposition made in the letter dated 20-8-79 referred to above has since been implemented by the management of the Sindri Unit.

U.K.'s assistance for the development of major underground Mining Project

2081. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the United Kingdom has agreed to assist India in the development of four major underground mining projects;

(b) if so, the details regarding the financial assistance so far provided; and

(c) whether any Indian Official Team had been to Britain to enter into an agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) According to the Memorandum of Understanding between Government of U.K. and the Government of India, it has been decided that British mining experts would undertake the work of preparation of detailed feasibility reports for the development of two mines at Asnapani and Ghusik. Studies would

also be taken up of two more mines at Swang and Jerangdih thereafter.

(b) Preparation of these reports is expected to cost approximately \$500,000 which will be met from the grants of capital aid made available to the coal sector under the British assistance.

(c) An Indian Official Team visited U.K. recently to finalise arrangements regarding preparation of feasibility reports and other allied matters.

Rural Electrification in Bihar

2082. SHRI RAM SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified in Bihar so far and the percentage of the population in Bihar still deprived of the benefits of electricity and the comparative figures of Bihar and the country as a whole in this regard; and

(b) whether Bihar Government have undertaken any rural electrification scheme for 1980-81 and if so, the number of additional villages to be electrified next year under this scheme as also the number of irrigation pumps likely to be provided power under the scheme and the details of the proposals under consideration of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) As per the latest progress report received from the Bihar State Electricity Board, 20,628 villages had been electrified in the State up to the end of June, 1980, which covered about 44.3 per cent of the rural population. Thus, about 55.7 per cent of the rural population in the State was still deprived of the benefits of electricity as on 30-6-1980.

The comparative figures of villages electrified and population yet to derive the benefits of electricity in Bihar and