

Supply of Fuel Oil by Pakistan and Bangladesh

1014. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan and Bangladesh have offered to supply fuel oil to India; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the offers made and the Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. We have accepted some cargoes of furnace oil from Bangladesh and Pakistan. It would not be in the commercial interest of Indian Oil Corporation and contrary to international practices to disclose details of these agreements.

News Bulletin in Maithili from Darbhanga All India Radio Station

1015. SHRI BHOGENDR JHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3416 on 8th July, 1980 regarding capacity of Darbhanga All India Radio Station and state:

(a) whether there has been demand from various sections of the people for news bulletin broadcast in Maithili from Darbhanga and other stations of All India Radio;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereon;

(c) what is the total time allotted to Maithili from all the stations of the All India Radio taken together and whether it is thought possible to increase the same;

(d) if so, details thereabout; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI KUMBHEN M. JOSHI). (a) Yes, Sir.

There have been a few demands to this effect.

(b) Since the events in Bihar are well covered by the existing news bulletins in Hindi, which has wide listening among the Maithili lovers/speakers, there is no communication imperative for starting a separate news bulletin in Maithili.

(c) The total monthly duration of Maithili programmes from the Stations of the AIR in Bihar is 32 hrs. 50 mts. This does not include Maithili songs broadcast from the Stations. At present, it is not proposed to increase the existing duration allotted to programmes in Maithili language.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The reasons have been given against (b) above.

Production of Coal

1016. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently made plans for an additional production of coal; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the investment and the new projects that have been sanctioned as well as the targets fixed for the annual production of different varieties of coal?

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

(b) The size of investment during the Sixth Plan is under finalisation. Twenty new coal mining projects have been sanctioned since January, 1980. During 1980-81, the targets of coking and non-coking coal production are 24.29 million tonnes and 74.71 million tonnes respectively. This will go up to 34.50 million tonnes for coking and 130.50 million tonnes for non-coking coal by 1984-85.