

Production of Oil from Coal

3908. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJ-PAYEE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that a pilot plant at the Central Fuel Research Institute, Dhanbad produces about 300 litres of oil a day from 0.5 tonnes of coal;

(b) is it also a fact that for developing a commercial scale plant for conversion of coal into oil, the Institute is awaiting clearance of a 25 tonne capacity coal hydrogenation plant submitting to the Government; and

(c) when was such a proposal submitted, progress so far in this regard and further action to be taken?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Coal hydrogenation tests carried out at the $\frac{1}{2}$ tonne per day capacity laboratory pilot plant at Central Fuel Research Institute has produced 8.15 kg. of Synthetic distillate and 2.5 litres of Synthetic diesel oil from about 50 kgs. of coal feed slurry.

(b) and (c). A proposal for setting up of 25 tonne per day capacity Coal Hydrogenation Plant was received from Central Fuel Research Institute in December, 1980. Government have included this project in the Sixth Plan Programme of CFRI.

Fertilizer Plant at Orissa

3909. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Orissa has communicated their decision to the Union Government to provide land, water, power and communications facilities like roads bridges etc. for

establishment of 3 lakhs tonnes capacity fertilizer plant at Orrisa;

(b) if so, the decision of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that the proposed project has been referred to the Public Investment Board for appraisal;

(d) if so, the decision will be in this subject; and

(e) when the decision will be taken by the Central Government for establishment of Fertilizer Plant at Paradip?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) to (e). The proposal for setting up of a phosphatic fertilizer project at Paradip in Orissa is being processed by Government for an investment decision and a decision is expected to be taken soon. The Government of Orissa have, in this connection, agreed to provide the necessary infrastructure facilities required for the project like land, water, power, roads, etc.

Soviet Union's offer for development of Fuel and power in India

3910. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently Indo-Soviet Joint Commission held discussion in Delhi about the co-operation that the Soviet Union can give for the development of fuel and power in India; and

(b) whether as a result of the discussion the two countries could arrive at any year wise programmes that will be taken up by India in the above field where Soviet co-operation will be available and if so, the particulars of such projects that will be taken in hand during 1981?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b).

Yes, Sir. The construction of an integrated thermal power plant of the capacity of 1000 MW (with possibility of expansion up to 3000 MW) together with associated transmission lines of about 900 kms length and stagewise construction of the Nigahi coal mine in the Singrauli region with Soviet assistance was one of the subjects of discussion during the Sixth Session of Indo-USSR Joint Commission held in January, 1981. On the Coal side, Soviet assistance for Jhanjra underground mine, Mukunda Opencast Complex and modernisation of Kathara and Patherdih coal washeries were also discussed during the said Session. The exact scope of the assistance to be provided by the Soviet Union and the time frame for the construction of these projects are being finalised.

Supply of bitumen to Kerala

3911. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the repair work and maintenance of roads in Kerala are at standstill owing to the shortage of bitumen; and

(b) steps Government propose to take to provide adequate supply of bitumen?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Representations have been received in this Ministry from the Government of Kerala that the repair and maintenance of roads in the State are affected due to the shortage in the supply of bitumen to the State;

(b) Instructions have been issued to the oil companies to maximise the supply of bitumen to the State including Kerala, to the extent possible. With the increased availability of bitumen it is hoped to make full supplies to the State as per allocations during 1981-82.

Recognition to SC/ST employees Welfare association by N.T.P.C. Badarpur Division

3912. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Employees Welfare Association has not been given recognition by the Management of the National Thermal Power Corporation Badarpur Division despite repeated representations by the Association;

(b) whether it is also a fact that reservations in the matter of appointments and promotions of SC/ST employees of the N.T.P.C. is not governed by the policy laid down by the Government in this respect;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps contemplated by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Welfare Association at the Badarpur Division of the National Thermal Power Corporation was formed in October, 1980. The Association has not submitted to the Management copies of registration certificates, and other documents relevant to the understanding of the objectives of the Association and other related matters. However, in spite of this several meetings have been held with the representatives of the Association to discuss the points brought out in the Memorandum submitted by the Association.

(b) No, Sir. The matter of appointments and promotions of SC/ST employees is being regulated in accordance with the policy guidelines laid down by the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Bureau of Public Enterprises.

(c) and (d). Does not arise.