

(b) and (c). On an inspection under Section 203A of the Companies Act, 1956 carried out in October, 1980, violation of some provisions of the Companies Act were noticed. These related mainly to non-compliance of Sections 204, 205A, 383A besides inadequate maintenance of certain statutory records. These matters are being pursued with the company. No violation of MRTP Act has, however, come to the notice of the Department.

New Projects of Eastern Coalfields Limited pending implementation

3931. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as many as 11 new projects of Eastern Coalfields Limited, which would have produced nearly 1.5 million tonnes of coal, could not be started for one year owing to a host of problems; and

(b) if so, what are these problems and the steps being taken to resolve these problems quickly so that coal production can be augmented?

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

(b) The problems are obstruction encountered to take possession of land even after legal formalities are over and demand for employment by the local people. The Eastern Coalfields Ltd. workers are not allowed to visit the place to start work and are very often threatened with physical violence.

Several meetings have been held with local trade unions and political parties including one in presence of the Chief Minister, West Bengal, to find a solution. Discussion is continuing to resolve the issue.

Low temperature Carbonisation Plant at Kanpur

3932. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal has been received by his Ministry from the Government of U.P. for setting up of a low temperature Carbonisations plant at Kanpur;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) the reaction of the Government of India to this proposal?

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

(b) and (c). The Pradeshia Industrial and Investment Corporation of U.P. Ltd. (PICUP) had submitted in 1976 a proposal for a Low Temperature Carbonisation Plant at Kanpur for carbonising about 1650 tonnes of raw coal per day for production of smokeless domestic fuel and town gas at a capital cost of Rs. 27 crores. The various issues relating to process technology, source of coal, transportation of coal, demand of gas, distribution of gas and coke, pricing policy etc. have been considered between the Government of India and the Government of U.P. on several occasions. The cost of the project in the meantime has gone up to Rs. 44 crores. In July, 1980, the whole position was reviewed and PICUP was asked to complete some specific study and survey within agreed parameters. The Government of U.P. has requested that the project be financed in the Central Sector and the matter was taken up with the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission however has informed that the Sixth Plan allocation for the Department of Coal does not include this project.