

(b) The task of commercialisation of the process developed by Regional Research Laboratory-Hyderabad has been assigned to National Research Development Corporation Ltd. an undertaking of Department of Science and Technology. The Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. is also putting up a plant for briquetting coke from char fines. Based on the process developed by Central Fuel Research Institute a pellet plant at Khas Kusunda with an installed capacity of 100 tonnes per day has been commissioned and the plant is now under commercial production.

**Oil supply by O.P.E.C. countries at Reasonable rates**

1077. SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state the results of the efforts with the OPEC countries to secure guaranteed oil supplies at prices considered fair and reasonable for developing countries like India ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P.C. SETHI) : The OPEC referred these question *inter alia*, to the long-term strategy committee. The committee met in May, 1980 in Taif (Saudi Arabia) and discussed, among other things, that part of the report which deals with OPEC's relations with other developing countries. However, no final decisions on these questions could be reached. There were further inconclusive discussions at the Vienna meeting of OPEC Ministers for Petroleum, Finance and Foreign Affairs in September 1980. The question was to have been further considered at a subsequent OPEC meeting and remitted for final decision to the Baghdad Summit of OPEC. The Iran-Iraq war led to the indefinite postponement of the OPEC Summit meeting and consideration of the issue has also been deferred.

**Supply of coal to various States and establishments during 1980**

1078. SHRI D. L. BAITHA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that supply of coal to various States has been scarce and availability of the same has been badly affected ; if so, the total quantity of coal produced and moved to the various States and establishments from 1-1-1980 to 31-12-1980 State-wise; Establishment-wise; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the movement of Railways, production and running of various industries, have been badly affected owing to short supply and non-availability of coal, and if so, the steps Government propose to take for the

augmentation of the production and supply of coal in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN) : (a) Supply of coal to the various States was affected due to shortage of transport capacity. The coal produced during the year 1980 was 109.12 million tonnes. A statement indicating the state-wise despatches during 1980 along with the despatches to the major consuming sectors is enclosed.

(b) Although there is no shortage of coal, the requirements of consumers are sometimes not met fully on account of transportation bottlenecks, or shortage of particular grades of coal. Coal companies are in constant touch with Railways at all levels to improve the availability of wagons for movement of coal.

The steps being taken to augment coal production, *inter-alia*, are :—

- (i) Improvement in power supply.
- (ii) Expediting land acquisition.
- (iii) Improvement in the Law and Order situation through close liaison with the State Government.
- (iv) Modernisation of mining technology.

**Statement  
Estimated Supply of coal to the  
various States in 1980**

	(in million tonnes)
Bihar	20.33
West Bengal	13.45
U.P.	9.01
Orissa	4.06
Madhya Pradesh	11.18
Maharashtra	7.61
Gujarat	6.69
Rajasthan	1.05
Delhi	2.57
Punjab	1.49
Haryana	0.89
Tamil Nadu	30.56
Andhra Pradesh	4.92
Karnataka	0.95
Other-smaller States	0.56
Railways	12.22