

(b) if so, whether this is in follow-up of the agreement signed on 10th December last year during President Brezhnev's visit;

(c) if so, what are the features of the 10th December agreement in regard to Soviet Assistance for increasing coal output and in erecting a 3000 MW super thermal power plant in the Singrauli coal belt together with transmission lines;

(d) whether in the month of January 1981 a Soviet team had visited India and reached an agreement as to how to implement the decision arrived at in this regard;

(e) by what time the implementation of this plan will be started; and

(f) what kind of assistance USSR will provide; and

(g) to what extent the power position will be improved after completion of this scheme?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the Agreement on Economic & Technical Cooperation concluded between the two countries in December, 1980, Soviet assistance is to be provided for the construction of an integrated thermal power plant of 1000 MW capacity (with possibility of expansion up to 3000 MW) together with associated transmission lines of about 900 kms length and stage wise construction of the Nigahi coal mine in the Singrauli region. Besides the integrated power project, Soviet assistance is also being made available for the construction of Jhunjhra coal mine and the integrated development of the first stage of the Mukunda open cast mine.

(d) Yes, Sir. Soviet teams of experts in the fields of power and coal development visited India in January, 1981. During their visit, discussions were held between them and Indian experts on issues relating to the implementation of the various power and coal projects indicated in the December Agreement.

(e) Although follow-up discussions between experts from both the countries have already been held the time schedule for the execution of the projects has not yet been finalised.

(f) The exact scope of the assistance that the Soviet Union will be providing for the power project and the coal projects has not yet been finalised. However,

Soviet Assistance shall be in areas such as survey work supply of equipment, machinery, and materials as also exchange of technical know-how.

(g) With the completion of the first phase of the power project, 1000 MW of power generating capacity would be added in the Western region of the country.

Constitutional Provisions regarding Legal Aid

1149. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a Constitutional provision to provide legal aid to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes people;

(b) if so, the amount provided to the S.C. and S.T. people of Orissa during 1979-80 and 1980-81 as legal aid;

(c) the number of people from various districts of the State benefited under this financial benefit provided to S.C. and S.T.; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) There is no special provision under the Constitution of India for providing legal aid to the Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes. Article 39A of the Constitution provides that "The State shall secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice, on a basis of equal opportunity and shall, in particular, provide free legal aid, by suitable legislation or schemes or in any other way, to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities. It applies to all citizens who are handicapped by reason of economic and other disabilities.

(b) to (d) The State Government of Orissa is being requested to supply the information on the points and it will be laid on the Table of the House after it has been received.

Colour Television compromise formula with Doordarshan commercial Corporation

1150. SHRI B.V. DESAI :

SHRI ARJUN SETHI

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been reported that Government will go ahead with the colour