

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The India Tourism Development Corporation is already constructing two hotels in the capital, and will shortly undertake construction of a third hotel in New Delhi.

It has also programmed construction of hotels at other tourist centres in the country during the Sixth Five Year Plan 1980-85. Since the funds needed for putting up the additional hotel rooms needed to cope with the increase in tourist traffic expected during the Sixth Five Year Plan will be substantial, it would hardly be possible for ITDC alone to meet this requirement from its own limited Sixth Plan outlay. Apart from that, the ITDC has other essential responsibilities to discharge for promoting tourism in the country. Hence there is a clear necessity for hotels to come up in the private sector also so as to meet the growing demand of tourists for hotel accommodation.

**Accumulation of deposits of Iron Ore Dust at Indian Iron and Steel Company's captive Iron Ore Mines at Goa**

1668. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge deposits of Iron ore dust has accumulated over the years at IISCO's captive iron ore mines at Goa ;

(b) whether any valuation has been made of such deposits ; and

(c) whether there is any scheme for disposal of the deposits either through export of gainful domestic utilisation ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL & MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) About 21 million tonnes of iron ore fines have accumulated so far at IISCO's captive iron ore mines at Goa.

(b) No value has been assigned to the above stock of iron ore fines since there is no regular market.

(c) A proposal to instal a Sinter Plant at Burnpur Works to make use of the fines has been made by IISCO. Some quantity of fines is being supplied to the Bokaro Steel Plant every year. Efforts are also being made to export these fines through MMTG.

**Demand and supply of Coking Coal**

1669. SHRI K. MALLANNA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details regarding the demand and supply of coking coal for the Steel Ministry during 1981-82 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite high production projections, Coal India is not opposed to the import of about half a million tonnes of coking coal 'just to be on the safe side' and to 'preserve' to some extent the depleting reserve of indigenous coking coal ; and

(c) if so, the details regarding the policy of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) & (b) . The total requirement of coking coal during 1981-82 for the six integrated steel plants is 1638 million tonnes at an average ash content of 19.0%, against which the Department of Coal has indicated the availability of 15.28 million tonnes at an average ash content of 20.5%. The gap between availability and demand is expected to be bridged by import of coking coal.

(c) Government are presently allowing import of coking coal on a year-to-year basis in order to cover the gap between the total requirement and indigenous availability, and also to reduce the high ash content in indigenous coal by a proper blend. An expert Group under the aegis of the Planning Commission is going into various aspects of long term import of coking coal and Government's policy will be formulated after the recommendations of this Group become available.

**Proposal to contain Prices of Essential Commodities**

1670. SHRI R. P. YADAV : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposals under consideration to contain the rise in prices of various essential commodities like grains, pulses, edible oils, soaps and detergents, vanaspati, etc.; and

(b) whether Government are also considering any proposals to include more items which are to be made available through public distribution system, if so, the details thereof ?