

cost of raw materials etc. However, the c.i.f. prices also do not reflect the true cost of production of bulk drugs in the countries where they are manufactured.

Submission of Scheme for Production of Crude and Fuels from Coal

9064. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the West Bengal Government have submitted to the Centre integrated schemes for production of essential synthetic crude and some other fuels and chemicals from coal available in the Raniganj-Andel-Durgapur Coal belt;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the schemes and capital outlay involved; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The West Bengal Government have recently carried out a study on coal based fuels and has sent a brief write-up of the following two schemes:

(i) production of synthetic oil from coal with particular emphasis on production of diesel/kerosene alongwith associated higher alcohols and chemicals and also production of industrial gases and methanol.

(ii) production of methanol and industrial gases as partial substitution as blend item in gasoline and fuel requirements.

The study envisages establishment of 1 million tonne per year of synthetic oil plant with associated production of 1500 tonnes per day of methanol for blending with gasoline, industrial uses to replace fuel oil consumption and other bye-products for carbocemicals. The estimated investment for scheme (i) is Rs. 1813 crores and for scheme (ii) Rs. 636 crores.

(c) The study is still in its preliminary stages. The Central Government is also carrying on studies and is at

present examining various alternatives of conversion of coal into liquid and gaseous fuels.

Retrenchment of Contract Workers for Giddi A. Colliery

9065. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of large scale retrenchment of contract workers doing perennial type of job in local self and truck loading in the Giddi A. Colliery of central coal fields Ltd. Kuya Colliery under Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. in the last three years; facts in details;

(b) whether it is a fact that those works are now being done by machine departmentally without departmentalising the contract workmen engaged in that perennial job for years;

(c) whether substituting men by machine causing unemployment is against the policy of Government; and

(d) if so, steps taken on that?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Fly Ash Menace from Chandrapura Thermal Power Plant

9066. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received the representation of the Jarkhand Mukhi Morcha dated 16th March, 1981 on the fly-ash menace from the Chandrapura Thermal Power Plant damaging crops of the villages around;

(b) whether any study has been made about the extent of damage caused by the fly-ash and the way to eliminate this hazard, if so, facts in details and the steps taken thereon;