

persons authorised by the Act, to carry on coal mining operation in India in any form and terminating all leases relating to winning or mining of coal granted in favour of private companies except those engaged in the production of iron and steel. After these judgements illegal coal mining has been curbed to a great extent. However, certain persons at times violate the provisions of law and indulge in illegal coal mining. The coal companies and the state Governments are taking concerted action against the offenders.

(d) Illegal mining has already been made a cognizable offence in 1978 punishable with imprisonment for a term extending to 3 years and fine extending to a sum of Rs. 20,000 by an amendment to coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act. The State Governments have already issued instructions to the District authorities to take punitive and preventive action under these Acts, read with provisions of Indian Penal Code. The Coal Companies have also been directed to report to the authorities concerned as and when illegal coal mining is detected.

Low Percentage in village Electrification in M.P. as Compared to other states

5819. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of village electrification is very low in Madhya Pradesh as compared to other state in India.

(b) what is the total number of villages in Madhya Pradesh and the total number of villages so far electrified ;

(c) what is the target for rural electrification in Madhya Pradesh during 1981-82 ;

(d) what is the total expenditure incurred by the Madhya Pradesh

State and the Centre on Village electrification Scheme till today; and

(e) how much finance has been sanctioned for village electrification in Madhya Pradesh by the State and the Central Governments for 1981-82 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY
(SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) There are 70,883 villages in Madhya Pradesh out of which 23, 719 villages have been electrified up to 31-12-1980.

(c) During the Five year Plan (1980-85) 1,00,000 new villages are proposed to be electrified in the different states and union Territories of the country. The Planning Commission has fixed a target of energising 58,000 agricultural pumpsets tube wells in Madhya Pradesh during 1981-82. Information about village electrification in the State is not available.

(d) and (e). Up to the end of March, 1980 an expenditure of approximately Rs. 267.08 crore has been incurred on rural electrification in the state. The outlays for 1980-81 and 1981-82 for rural electrification (which include, both village electrification and pump-set energisation) as fixed up by the Planning Commission, is Rs. 26.74 crores and Rs. 29.00 crores respectively. In addition, funds from financing institutions such as ARDC and Commercial Banks are also expected to be available for rural electrification in the state.

Pact with USSR for new power Break through in India

5820. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised with the USSR pact for new power breakthrough in India :