

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 pumpset 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 :

(b) if so, the details of turbo-generators and nuclear reactors set up to be set-up by Soviet Union;

(c) whether Soviet Union have also offered installation/production of turbo-generators and nuclear reactors in India to meet her power requirements; and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) Whether Government propose to send delegations to Soviet Union in this connection if so, the details thereof and when ?

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

(a) to (d). No pact has been finalised with USSR by the Government for a new power break through in India. However recently agreements for co-operation between the two countries in certain fields of power development have been finalised. The salient features of these Agreements are given below :—

In the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the representatives of India and USSR in November, 1980 co-operation in the area of renovation of thermal units installed with Soviet assistance in Indian power stations, primarily in respect of the Petratu and obra power stations so as to improve availability and reliability of the units, and exchange of experience and know-how between the two countries in the operation of power plants utilisation of low calorific fuel and setting up of a large thermal projects, and development of power systems has been envisaged.

In addition in the Agreement on Economic & Technical co-operation signed between the two countries in New Delhi on 10-12-1980, construction of an integrated thermal power plant of the capacity of 1000 (MW with possibility of expansion up to 3000 MW) together with the associated transmission and coal development facilities has been envisaged.

In the protocol of the Sixth Session of the inter-governmental indo-USSR joint Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation also, reference has inter alia been made to co-operation between the two countries in the construction of the above mentioned integrated thermal plant and to operation and maintenance of power plants, supply of spare and training.

### Testing of wells for gas at Gulf of Cambay

5821. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC has completed testing of assessment wells at Gulf of Cambay in the Mid Tapti region ;

(b) if so, the results thereof ;

(c) what is the estimated gas field in the new wells for commercial exploitation ; and

(d) whether efforts are being made on off-shore drilling in the area of Gulf of Cambay ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P.C. SETHI) :  
(a) The ONGC had drilled and completed one well in the Mid Tapti structure in the Gulf of Cambay by the first week of February, 1980.

(b) The drilling of this well had indicated about eight sands in the structure. Out of the six sands tested in this well, one has proved dry.

(c) The well potential is estimated at 0.2 to 0.3 million cubic metres of gas per day. The production potential of this structure is being assessed.

(d) Yes, Sir.