

strategy for the introduction of ESS programme, this may be kept in view.

SHRI JAGPAL SINGH:

SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

**Coal production during April to July, 1981**

2253. DR. KRUPASINDHU MHOI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of coal production during the period April to July, 1981;

(b) how does the figure compare with the coal production during the corresponding period of 1980;

(c) what are the reasons for the shortfall in production, if any; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take for maximum output of coal during the next 8 months of 1981-82?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) to (c). Coal production during April-July '81 was 36.80 million tonnes (provisional) as against 34.12 million tonnes during the corresponding period of 1980. There was, thus, no shortfall in production. In fact, the production this year showed an increase of 2.68 million tonnes or 7.9 per cent over last year.

(d) Steps taken to increase production include improvement in supply of power; installation of captive power generation capacity, procurement of essential equipment, expediting land acquisition for mine construction with the cooperation of the State Governments and further improvement in the law and order situation in coal belts with the assistance of State Governments.

**Leakage of Proposal for Raising of Prices of Petroleum Products**

2254. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI TRILOK CHAND:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government have been drawn to the Press report appearing in 'Patriot' dated 14-7-1981 regarding leakage of proposed rise in the prices of petroleum products; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is not aware of any such leakage.

**Improvement in Power Supply in August 1981**

2255. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any improvement in the power supply in the country during August, 1981;

(b) if so, to what extent the improvement has been made;

(c) which were the States where mostly acute power shortage occurred in June and July, 1981;

(d) what were the main reasons;

(e) what steps are being taken to improve the power position; and

(f) which are the States where no power shortage occurred during June and July, 1981?

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

(b) There was an increase of about 11 per cent in power availability in the month of August, 1981 (upto 26th) as compared to the generation in the corresponding period last year.