

Allotment of Gas Agencies and Petrol Pumps in Madhya Pradesh

3293. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) how many persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes have been provided with 'Gas Agencies' and 'Petrol Pumps' in Madhya Pradesh (district-wise) during last three years;

(b) how many applications are still under the consideration of Government; and

(c) the details thereof, particularly names of candidates and places of agencies?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) One retail outlet dealership at Malajkhand in Balaghat district and two cooking gas distributorships one each at Bhopal and Betul were awarded to the candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes community in Madhya Pradesh in the last three years. The party at Betul has reportedly backed out in July, 1981.

(b) and (c). Selection of dealers in respect of five cooking gas agencies and one retail outlet dealership for the under-mentioned locations under SC/ST category is in progress.

Cooking gas	Retail outlet
Indore	Misrod (Bhopal)
Bhopal (2)	
Bhilai	
Jabalpur	

Since selection is yet to be made, it may not be possible to give details regarding names of candidates at this stage.

Effect of Inferior Coal on Output of Bhatinda Thermal Project

3294. SHRI R.L. BHATIA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the supply of inferior coal in big chunks, at times even three metres long, has not only lowered the output of the Bhatinda Thermal Project but also

pushed up maintenance costs and lowered the life expectancy of the plant; and

(b) if so, the action which Government propose to take to save the plant from impending ruination and to raise the output ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN) : (a) The Punjab State Electricity Board have brought to the notice of the Government that the Bhatinda Thermal Power Station has been receiving inferior coal in big chunks resulting in the choking of the gratings of the coal handling plant affecting the performance of the plant.

(b) A joint team comprising of representatives from the Department of Coal India Ltd. and Central Electricity Authority was deputed to look into the problems of coal supplies both in respect of quantity and quality.

The Joint Team visited the power station last month and recommended, inter alia, that a system of joint sampling of coal by the representatives of the power stations and the coal suppliers be introduced at the point of unloading of coal stocks. Appropriate action is being taken in consultation with the power station authorities and others concerned.

Coal mined by Coal India during last three years

3295. SHRI DALBIR SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) what is the quantum of coal mined by Coal India Limited during the last three years from Madhya Pradesh Coal mines, how much coal out of the coal mined was utilised in Madhya Pradesh and for what purpose;

(b) what are the grades of coal available in Madhya Pradesh, what are their uses and how much of it is being transported and to what extent; and

(c) what was the target of coal production during these three years of each mine in Madhya Pradesh and what was the achievement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN) : (a) and (b). The required information is given below :

(Figures in million tonnes)

Year	Target of coal production from CIL mines in M.P.	Quantum of coal mined from CIL mines in M.P.	Portion of coal mined in M.P. utilised in M.P. itself	Purpose for which used
78-79	22.68	22.56	7.62	Power generation, steel making; cement, textiles, rayons,
79-80	24.21	24.31	8.25	paper and other item of manufacture ; brick burning
80-81	26.01	25.93	8.50	

(b) Non coking coal (Grades A to F); medium coking coal (washery grade II); semi coking (Grades I/II) and a small quantity of low volatile coal are available in M.P., which are used for the purposes

indicated above. The coal is transported by rail, road, consumers own wagons, belt conveyors and by ropeways. Modewise transport during the last 3 years is as follows :

(Figures in Million tonnes)

Year	By rail	By road	Consumers own wagons	Belt conveyors	Ropeways	Total
1978-79	15.29	2.09	2.48	1.06	0.86	21.78
1979-80	16.24	4.22	2.14	1.22	0.86	24.68
1980-81	16.86	4.94	1.94	1.50	0.87	26.11

Invitation of Tenders for Oil Drillings

3296. SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government recently invited global tenders for off-shore and general oil drillings;

(b) if so, what relaxations or new conditions have been introduced now as compared to the earlier areas;

(c) what has been the response so far and how it compares with earlier responses; and

(d) is it not possible to put a larger number of companies with ONGC team at a time and hasten up the import cuts in oil ?

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

(b) and (c). Negotiations are at present in progress and it would not be in public interest to disclose details, at this stage.

(d) ONGC will be fully and effectively associated with any arrangements that may be made.

Enquiry Against AIR Officials Exploiting Artistes

3297. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the Press Report (Pioneer dated 14th July, 1981) highlighting the modus operandi of the AIR Officials in exploiting the artistes and their involvement in other crimes such as corruption and bribery; and

(b) if so, reaction of Government with regard thereto ?