

**Coupons worth Rs. 10 given to each employees of P. and T. working in Eastern Court**

1414. SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) is it true that the coupons worth Rs. 10 were given to each employee of P. & T. Department working in the Eastern Court on 19th January, 1982;

(b) what other items were distributed to the staff on the 19th January, 1982;

(c) how much money was sent for providing coupons, liquor, cash and other things to the employees on 19th, January, 1982; and

(d) how this amount has been accounted for?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) It is a fact that coupons worth Rs. 10 were given to most of the P. & T. employees who attended duty at Central Telegraph Office housed in Eastern Court on 19-1-1982 to buy food articles from canteen to keep the essential service running in case of dislocation of transport.

(b) No other item except food articles in the canteen were distributed to the staff.

(c) Other than coupons for Rs. 10 each towards food articles which were usable only in the canteen, no other things were provided to the employers. The expenditure was Rs. 21,740.00.

(d) This amount has been accounted for under contingency expenditure.

**Review of case of justice S. N. Kumar of Delhi High Court**

1415. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps on the Shri S. N. Kumar Case in view of the desire of the five Judges on the Constitution Bench that the Government should review the case of Shri S. N. Kumar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHAL): (a) to (c). The matter is under examination.

**Programme for tidal power development**

1416. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to make study and investigation of tidal power development;

(b) whether any scheme has been proposed to be introduced for this purpose;

(c) if so, the total amount allocated for the implementation of the above programme; and

(d) the progress made so far in implementing such programme in the near future?

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

(b) A scheme for carrying out investigations and studies for tidal power project in the Gulf of Kutch has been sanctioned by the Government. The investigation have already started.

(c) An amount of Rs. 218.38 lakhs has been sanctioned for the preliminary investigation.

(d) The preliminary work on investigation is scheduled to be carried out over a period of five years. The Survey of India, Central Water and Power Research Station, Central Design Organisation, Central Electricity Authority and a number of other organisations would be involved in connection with the various facts of these studies. A Technical Coordination Committee has also been constituted by the Government to guide, monitor and coordinate the studies. The Geological Survey of India would be undertaking certain preliminary geological surveys in the area.

#### Escalation of cost of Coal Mining Projects

1417. SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN:

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that because of the delays in the implementation of the projects, the cost of about seven coal mining projects has escalated by almost 133 per cent;

(b) If so, the details thereof stating the extent of delay and the major factors responsible for the delay in implementation of these projects and the extent of escalation in their cost

as against the originally anticipated cost;

(c) The steps contemplated by Government to minimise the delay in the implementation of these projects.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): (a) No, Sir. The escalation in cost of the seven projects is due to various reasons which have also caused delay in implementation.

(b) The projects referred to in (a) above are:

1. Sudamdih	in BCCL
2. Moonidih	in BCCL
3. Chinakuri	in ECL
4. Dhemomain	in ECL
5. Ramgarh OC	in CCL
6. Jhingurdah OC	in CCL
7. Rajgamar	in WCL

There have been delays ranging from 3 to 16 years and the cost escalation is anticipated to be from 89 per cent to 617 per cent. Reasons for delays in implementation of these projects are broadly as follows:

(i) Delay due to land not being available in time,

(ii) Difficult geo-mining conditions met during development of mines and/or technology not available for working these deposits,

(iii) Non-availability of plant and machinery.

(c) (i) Cooperation of concerned State Governments has been sought and ministerial level discussions held to expedite acquisition of land for coal projects and to tackle the law and order problems, resulting in marked improvement;

(ii) Suitable steps have been taken obtain foreign consultancy