

it would be possible to run the generators for 8 to 10 years before necessitating such overhaul.

(xi) For sequential control of auxiliaries in the control and instrumentation, solid state system should be used.

(xii) For unit protection, relay based system should be used.

(xiii) From the experience of many units in the country it was noted that they tend to run into coal with high ash content of the order of 45 per cent and boiler designs should take this into account in addition to the other properties such as moisture in the rainy seasons.

(xiv) It was also felt that there should be some discipline in regard to the coal supply to power plant to eliminate very large lumps of coal and stone peices to the extent possible.

(xv) The power plant laboratories should be equipped with up-to-date analytical instruments for studying water chemistry.

(xvi) There is a great scarcity of activated carbon in the country. Since this is an essential material required particularly to take care of the organic contaminants in water augmentation of the production of this material should be pursued.

(xvii) Commercial accounting system should be introduced in all the State Electricity Boards.

(xviii) Cadre of thermal engineers should be separated.

Increase in prices of Newsprint

877. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the prices of newsprint;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the reasons for the increase; and

(c) what is the cost of production of newsprint within the country and the cost of procurement of this item from abroad on an average basis?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is associated in fixing the price of imported newsprint only. This price is fixed every quarter taking into consideration various factors such as purchase price, freight rates and the exchange rate of the U.S. Dollar *vis-a-vis* the Indian Rupee. This may vary from time to time. The High Sea sale price and buffer stock sale price of standard newsprint of 48.8 GSM was Rs. 6120/- and Rs. 6010/- per Metric Tonne respectively during April-June, 1982. The sale price for the current quarter will be announced shortly.

(c) The cost of production of indigenous newsprint differs from unit to unit and also over time. In February, 1982, the cost of production in the case of newsprint produced by Nepa Mills was approximately Rs. 500,200 metric tonnes. The cost of procurement at present of newsprint from abroad is around Rs. 5,500/- per metric tonnes. cost insurance freight (excluding import duty).

New Method to convert substandard Coal into Low Ash (Coal)

878. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new method to convert sub-standard coal into low ashed coking coal has to be adopted at the Barura Washery in Dhanbad;

(b) if so, what are the broad features of this project indicating the economy that is likely to result from this process; and

(c) what steps are contemplated to put this new method into use in other washeries?