

area between the book stocks and physical stocks, were within the permissible limit of 5%.

(c) and (d) No survey has been carried out in the coal company about the number of coal depots running in the Gomia P. S. around Kathara area. However, during petrolling by security personnel heaps of coal were detected and subsequently the coal company lodged complaints with the Gomia P. S. on 17.6.83, 25.7.83 and 24.1.84. Thereafter the District Authority seized 178 tonnes of coal from these heaps which were subsequently handed over to the coal company.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) A committee has been constituted by the district authorities to take appropriate action as and when they come across any irregularities by anti-social elements.

**Amount paid to Contractors for carrying sand and transporting coal in BCCL**

2664. SHRI A. K. ROY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state ;

(a) the details of the amount paid to the contractors carrying sand and transporting coal within the collieries in the last five years, with year-wise break-up for coal and sand transport separately and with area-wise break-up in Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.

(b) particulars of the first ten coal and sand transport contractors in BCCL for the same period and the amount paid to each of them with year-wise break-up ;

(c) whether there is any move to departmentalise the transport contract ; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in regard thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The management have been directed to achieve cent per cent Departmentalisation of the Transport of both coal & sand in a phased manner. The progress achieved are reviewed periodically

by a Committee headed by a Joint Secretary, Department of Coal.

**Sick Wells in Country**

2665. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI :

SHRI MOHAN LAL PATEL :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sick wells still existing in Gujarat State and in other oil producing areas in the country ;

(b) the steps being taken to re-start the production from these oil wells ;

(c) the number of sick wells started re-functioning during the year 1983 ; and

(d) the steps being taken to explore the possibilities of new oil fields in off-shore and on-shore in different parts of the country especially in Gujarat and Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA) : (a) At present there are 470 sick wells in the country including 306 wells in Gujarat.

(b) Some of the steps being taken and :

(i) increasing the number of workover rigs.

(ii) putting the workover rigs on round the clock shifts.

(iii) stimulation of sick wells.

(iv) putting wells in artificial lifts progressively.

(v) acquisition of modern & sophisticated equipment & tools for workover operation.

(c) 206.

(d) ONGC & OIL propose to intensify exploration programme both onshore and offshore in the coming years. The detailed exploration programme for the coming years for the onshore and offshore areas including Gujarat and Orissa would be available only after the finalisation of the Seventh Plan,