

Introduction of Joint Sampling of Coal at Various Collieries

2217. SHRI C. M. SINHA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce joint sampling of coal at the touching points of various collieries;

(b) if so, the time by which this joint sampling system will be introduced; and

(c) to what extent it will help consumers who have bulk supply of coal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c). All possible efforts are made by the Coal Mines Authority Ltd., and the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. to ensure supply of coal of the required quality to the consumers. Joint sampling at loading points is done only for those bulk consumers for whom such a clause is provided in the agreement. The Quality Control Department of the companies, however, ensure regular inspections at the time of loading and whenever the consumers so desire joint inspections are also arranged.

Shortage of Cement in Tamil Nadu

2218. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of cement in the Tamil Nadu State;

(b) if so, the reasons for the shortage;

(c) the total allotment made to the State for the last three months; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the supplies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a), (b) and (d). No complaint regarding shortage of cement in Tamil Nadu has been received by the Ministry. The State Government has been requested to indicate the position. Reply is awaited.

(c) The following quantities of cement have been allotted to Tamil Nadu during the quarters October—December, 1974 and January—March, 1975:—

October-December 1974	3,17,750 tonnes.
January-March 1975	3,17,750 tonnes

Take over of Coal Mines under Private Agencies

2219. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what further progress has been made to take over the remaining coal mines which are still under private agencies; and

(b) when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The policy of the Government is not to allow mining of coal by private parties anywhere, except in the captive mines of the private sector steel plants which were specifically excluded from the purview of the legislation for the nationalisation of coal mines. Appropriate legal and administrative action is being taken to put a stop to mining of coal by private parties as and when any instances come to the notice of the Government.