

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) to (c) The news item alleges that substantial portion of paper allotted to the exercise book manufacturers has been diverted to the open market at an attractive premium. No complaints of such diversion has been made to the Government.

Steps to improve Coal Movement from Pitheads

6329. SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of coal has reached above the target level; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve coal movement from pitheads?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Concerted and co-ordinated efforts are being made by the coal producing companies and the Railways to match wagon supplies with coal production and during the recent months movement of coal by rail has shown improvement.

Charges of 'Fishy Deal' regarding purchase of equipments for Anandpur Sahib Power Project in Punjab

6330. SHRI B. S. BHAURA ·
SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether charges of 'fishy deal' in the purchase of Rs. 110 lakh hydel equipments for the proposed Rs. 20 crores Anandpur Sahib power project in Punjab have come to the notice of Government; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) It has been reported by the Punjab Government that the Project Authorities had placed an order for the purchase of Dumpers for Anandpur Sahib

Hydel Project without getting the prior approval of the competent authority. The State Government have further intimated that the whole matter is under the consideration of a sub-Committee constituted for the purpose.

Indo-French Agreement in the field of Liquid Fuel Rockets

6331 SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:
SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Indo-French Project called "VIKAS" some Indian Engineers have been deputed by the Department of Space to France for training in the field of Liquid Fuel Rockets;

(b) whether any agreement has been signed with France in the field of fuel rockets; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE, MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) to (c) An agreement has been signed with Societe Europeenne de Propulsion (SEP) of France to acquire know-how relating to Viking Engines and their components and of Pressure Transducers which are used in the testing of liquid rocket engines. In return, the Government of India has to fabricate and supply specified numbers of Pressure Transducers. Under the Agreement, several Indian engineers and scientists have been deputed to France to receive training and to assist in the acquisition of know-how.

Grant of pension to participants of Anti-India agitation in Tamil Nadu

6332 SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA:
Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the decision of Tamil Nadu Government to grant pensions to those who had participated in anti-Hindi agitations in the State; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Central Government thereon?