

airports, roads, telecom, information technology, and in the service and insurance sectors.

#### **Payment of Service Charges by HPC**

3321. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Paper Corporation has paid service charges to its dealers for the sales made with the States as well as with Central Government Departments;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Hindustan Paper Corporation in Delhi has earmarked specific product segment to its stockists and dealers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith criteria fixed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL): (a) and (b) Hindustan Paper Corporation (HPC) has neither engaged any private agent or dealer for servicing any State/Central Government Department orders nor made any payment towards service charges for the last three years.

(c) and (d) In the year 1994, HPC earmarked product segments for its Delhi Stockists/Dealers based on basic criteria such as Publishing, Exercise Books, Computer Stationery and Share Forms. However, in the present market condition of surplus availability of paper, the stockists/dealers lift paper pertaining to product segments depending on their market potentiality and need.

[*Translation*]

#### **Light and Sound Programme of Bodh Gaya**

3322. SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to start sound and light programme in Bodh Gaya of Bihar is pending for the consideration of the Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Prices of Coal**

3323. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:  
DR. SUSHIL INDORA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of different varieties of coal have been increased after the nationalisation of coal industry;

(b) if so, the number of times the prices of coal have been increased upto March, 1998 and to what extent;

(c) the prices of different varieties of coal at the time of nationalisation of coal industry;

(d) whether coal industry suffered financial loss after its nationalisation;

(e) if so, the extent of financial loss suffered as a result thereof;

(f) whether the Government have decided to close down some coal mines; and

(g) if so, the details of such mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In the past 25 years the prices have been revised 18 times. The average price of coal produced at the time of nationalisation was Rs. 37.50 per tonne. The average prices of coal produced by Coal India Limited (CIL) as revised last on 23.8.98 is Rs. 559.00 per tonne. That is an average of about Rs. 21.00 per annum per tonne of coal.

(d) and (e) The CIL and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) in the nationalised coal sector have been incurring losses or earning profit on the basis of their operations in a financial year. The accumulated losses of CIL and SCCL as on 31.3.98 are Rs. 499.63 crores and Rs. 1115.06 crores respectively.