

(f) to what extent India has examined this report and has allowed exporters for setting up bases in EU ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. Government is aware of the UNCTAD's publication "Sharing Asia's Dynamism" on Asia's direct investment in the EU. European Union nations are economically important to India as India's largest trading partner. GOI keeps a watch on various tariff and non tariff barriers to India's exports to various destinations including Europe and necessary bilateral and multilateral consultations are made as and when necessary. As regards permitting overseas investments by export oriented units or other firms, especially in joint ventures and marketing in Europe, GOI's policies in this regard have been made liberal and Indian business and industry are encouraged to avail these facilities for increasing presence in those markets.

Agreement with SAIL

6697. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL :
SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd. and Steel Authority of India have finalised a deal for supply of coking coal on long term basis;

(b) if so, the details of the deal finalised and implications thereof;

(c) the estimated requirement of coking coal by Steel sector at present and projection of demand for the next five years; and

(d) the details of coking coal production by CIL during 1996-97 for augmenting production during 1997-98 with order of investment and extent of imports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b) Agreement for supply of coking coal to Steel Authority of India Limited of long term basis is presently under negotiation between Coal India Limited (CIL) & Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).

(c) Planning Commission has assessed demand of raw coking coal for the steel sector including that for coke ovens for the year 1997-98 as 41.40 million tonnes. For the balance four years of the Ninth Five Year Plan, the projected demand of coking coal is in the process of being firmed up by the Planning Commission. However

provisional figures as indicated by the Working Group on Coal & Lignite for the Ninth Five Year Plan are as under :-

(million tonnes)			
1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
43.26	43.87	43.74	49.57

(d) The production of coking coal of metallurgical grade from CIL sources during 1996-97 was 18.57 million tonnes.

Steps taken/proposed to be taken by Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) & Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) which are the main producers of coking coal to augment indigenous availability of coking coal are as under :-

- (i) Two new washeries at Madhuband (BCCL) and Kedla (CCL) in advanced stage of construction are likely to be commissioned during 1997-98.
- (ii) Increasing raw coking coal availability by reorganising existing mines and development of new mines.
- (iii) Modification of the existing coking coal washeries to improve the capacity utilisation as well as the quality of washed coking coal.
- (iv) Increasing raw coal feed to washeries by supplying low volatile medium coking coals of suitable quality.
- (v) Exploitation of coking coal by SAIL from captive mining block offered by CIL.

An Outlay of Rs. 134 crores as for BCCL and Rs. 245.13 crores for CCL has been provided in the Budget Estimate (BE) of 1997-98 for development of mines. Further a provision of Rs. 22 crores for BCCL and Rs. 22.50 crores for CCL has been made in 1997-98 for coking coal washeries.

As per Planning Commission, the imports of low ash coking coal for the year 1997-98 is likely to be of the order of 10.40 million tonnes.

Lok Adalats

6698. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :
SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :