

(b) Does not arise.

Pench Thermal Power Plant

2923. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of the Pench Thermal Power Project of Chhindwara district of Madhya Pradesh is behind the Schedule; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Electricity Authority have informed that the construction of the Pench Thermal Power Station (2x210 MW) of Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board is behind schedule on account of paucity of funds.

[English]

Coal despatches to Maharashtra and Gujarat

2924. SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM: Will

the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Coal Shortage, Maharashtra, Gujarat involved in dispute" appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated July 18, 1991;

(b) if so, whether the Western Coalfields Limited, has suspended road despatches of coal to Maharashtra and Gujarat;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). No, Sir. In order to maintain movement of more coal by rail to high priority core sectors like Power, Cement, Steel, Railways, Fertilizers etc. despatches by road from Western Coalfields Ltd. had to be regulated. Details of despatches made to non-core sector industries in Maharashtra and Gujarat by WCL during the period April-June, 1991 are given below:—