

[English]

SHRIMATI DIPIKA H.  
TOPIWALA:**Study of Balco Captive Power Plant by  
the N.T.P.C.**

3176. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the study experiments conducted by the National Thermal Power Corporation at Balco Captive Power Plant at Korba, near Bilaspur in Madhya Pradesh has yielded encouraging results; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Experiments on the growth of the water Hyacinth in the ash pond has been found to result in reduction in pollution level of the effluent water due to fibrous roots of the plant acting as a filtering medium for the suspended particles in the effluent water. Experiments have shown reduction of suspended particles, in some cases upto 40-50% in the discharged water. Other indirect benefits have been seen as higher rate of water evaporation and creation of cool, humid and oxygen rich environment around the ash pond, with possibility of better afforestation in the pond, after it is abandoned.

**Lower rates for Small Scale Units for  
T.V. Advertisements**

3177. SHRI CHETAN P.S.  
CHAUHAN:  
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA  
KUMARI:  
SHRIMATI RITA VERMA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to charge lower rates for advertisement on television from small scale units;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c). As per the Government's policy, small scale industries are given the benefit of 15% discount in the advertisement rates if they book their advertisements directly with Doordarshan and not through advertising agencies. It is also Doordarshan's policy to give preferential bookings in favour of small scale industries.

[Translation]

**Modernisation of Bokaro Steel Plant**

3178. SHRI BHOJ KRISHNA HAN-  
DIQUE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised any Plan to modernise the Bokaro Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEB): (a) to (c). While the Government has already accorded approval in principle to the modernisation of Bokaro Steel