

**Production of Coal by ECL**

5482. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed and actual coal produced by the Eastern Coal Fields Limited during each of the last three years;

(b) whether there has been shortfall in production against the target;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) could not achieve its production targets during last 3 years. The details of coal production against the target from the mines of ECL during the last 3 years are as under:—

	(million tonnes)		
	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
Target	25.45	29.75	31.50
Actual	24.85	27.81	29.65 (prov.)

(c) The main reasons for shortfall in production from the targets are as under:—

(i) Power failure.

(ii) Drowning of districts due to heavy rainfall.

(iii) Geological disturbances.

(iv) Delay in commissioning of dragline at Sonepur Bazari opencast project due to design defect.

(v) Delay in commissioning of longwall equipment at Jhanjra underground project due to non availability of spares in time from C.I.S. countries.

(d) Following steps have been taken by Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL) for enhancing coal production from its mines.

1. Regular interaction with West Bengal State Electricity Board (WBSEB), Bihar State Electricity Board (BSEB) and Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) for improvement in power supply

2. Surface water management alongwith adequate monsoon preparation including augmentation of pumping in order to avoid drowning of districts.

3. Intense monitoring for procurement of spares and equipment in time.

4. Optimisation of production as well as optimisation of capacity utilisation of the existing equipment.

5. Optimisation of production from Side Discharge

Loaders/Load Haul Dumpers and power support longwall faces.

6. Measures for implementation of projects have been intensified so as to avoid slippage in projects.

[*Translation*]

**Commission to check Corruption Cases**

5483. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH:

KUMARI UMA BHARATI:

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a high level Commission to check corruption in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) There is no proposal under consideration to constitute a high level Commission to check corruption in the country. However, with the object of providing for the establishment of an institution of Lokpal to enquire into the allegations of corruption against public functionaries and for matters connected therewith, the Lokpal Bill, 1996 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 13.9.96 and the Bill is under consideration of Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of part (a) above.

[*English*]

**Kerala Scheduled Tribes Amendment Bill, 1996**

5484. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala High Court has directed the Union Government to complete all preliminary steps before the submission of the Kerala Scheduled Tribes (Restriction on Transfer of Lands and Restriction of Alienated Lands) Amendment Bill, 1996 for the consideration of the President within two months from the date of issuing the direction;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in its order dated 24.3.1997 has directed the Union of India to complete all preliminary steps required to be taken before submission