

Raniganj and Satpura areas. So far, 7 blocks in Gondwana basins of Eastern and Central parts of Peninsular India covering an area of about 2390 sq. kms. have been indentified for CBM exploration. These blocks are located in Raniganj, Jharia, Bokaro Sohagpur and Satpura coalfield.

Committee on Disabilities Act, 1955

273. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any committee has been constituted by the Government to examine the condition of persons under the purview of Disabilities Act, 1955;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of disabled persons accommodated as per the provisions of the Act ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) A Statement is enclosed.

(c) The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 came into force w.e.f. 07.02.1996. This Act provides for both preventive and promotional aspects of rehabilitation of persons with disabilities. The implementation of the provisions of the Act requires a multisectoral collaborative approach of all Ministries of the Central Government, the State Governments and other appropriate authorities. They have been taking action to implement various provisions of the Act related to them.

Statement

(a) and (b) Under clause 3 (i) and 9 (i) of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, the Government have constituted a Central Coordination Committee and Central Executive Committee, respectively. The functions of the Central Coordination Committee shall be to serve as the national focal point on disability matters and facilitate the continuous evolution of a comprehensive policy towards solving the problems faced by persons with disabilities. The Committee may also develop a national policy to address issues faced by persons with disabilities. The Central Coordination Committee shall meet atleast once in every six months. The Central Executive Committee shall be the executive body of the Central Coordination Committee and shall be responsible for carrying out the decisions of the Central Coordination Committee. The Central Executive Committee shall meet atleast once in three months.

[Translation]

Supply of Petroleum Products

274. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposal from Reliance Petroleum Ltd. has been received for supply of petroleum products through seven States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which decision is likely to be taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Reliance Petroleum Limited (RPL) has sought permission to lay a product pipeline from Jamnagar via Ahmedabad to Indore (Phase-I) and for its extension from Indore to Hyderabad via Bhopal and Nagpur, with branch pipelines from Ahmedabad to Patna and from Ahmedabad to Hazira (Phase-II). As per present policy, product pipeline are laid by M/s. Petronet India limited (PIL) through subsidiaries incorporated for specific projects. PIL needs to examine the proposal of Reliance to take an appropriate decision in due course.

Constitution of Special Force

275. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to constitute a special force at local level in violence affected areas for curbing violence in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said force is likely to be constituted ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Dealer Selection Boards

276. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Dealer Selection Boards of Himachal Pradesh has been constituted;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the term and composition of the Board;

(c) the time by which it is likely to start functioning; and

(d) the number of such Boards proposed to be constituted in other States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. One Dealer Selection Board for Himachal Pradesh, J & K and Chandigarh has been constituted on 14.10.1998 with the following composition:

Justice (Retd.) Mrs. H.K. Sandhu – Chairman

An officer not below the rank of Chief Manager of one/concerned Oil company. – Member

An officer of the rank of Chief Manager of another Oil Co. – Member

As per policy, two officers of oil companies as members will be nominated by the Executive Director or Director (Marketing) of the oil companies not earlier than three days from the date fixed for starting the interviews at a particular location. The Chairman has been appointed for a term not exceeding two years.

(c) The above Dealer Selection Board would start functioning from December, 1998.

(d) For all States altogether, 52 Dealer Selection Boards are likely to be constituted. Out of the above, 45 Dealer Selection Boards have already been constituted.

[English]

Cooking Gas through Pipelines

277. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any plan to supply cooking gas through pipelines in Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the estimated cost of the plan alongwith the target fixed for the completion thereof; and

(d) the budgetary provision made during the current year in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Amendment in Labour Laws

278. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the labour laws;

(b) If so, the details thereof?

(c) whether the views of other related ministries are likely to be considered before making any major changes in the Labour Laws; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (d) Review and updation of Labour Laws is a continuous process and amendments/fresh legislation are made depending on the result of the review. A number of labour laws have been enacted from time to time to address various aspects of labour encompassing a vast span of subjects which include Freedom of Association and Trade Unions Rights, conditions of work, Minimum wages, Social security, Labour relations, migrant workers employment of children, etc.

There is always a need to review comprehensively the labour laws so as to ensure consistency of labour laws with the general changes taking place in the economic and social policies and also to provide for greater welfare of the workers. The views of related Ministries are considered before effecting any major changes in the labour laws.

Petrol Outlets

279. SHRI H.G. RAMULU :

SHRI ANUP LAL YADAV :

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

SHRI JUAL ORAM :

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH :