

tory to taking up construction viz. preparation of detailed plans and designs for yards and bridges has been commenced. Upto end of Sept. 90 an amount of Rs. 4 lakhs has been spent out of the allocation of Rs. 4.09 crores for the current year.

[English]

**First Class Reservation Quota in Dimapur Booking Office**

1903. SHRI SHIKIHO SEMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether only one seat in 1st Class for the State of Nagaland at Dimapur Railway Booking Office has been allocated;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

(c) whether there is a proposal to increase this quota; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). A quota of 30 first Class and 12 AC sleeper berths is already available at Dimapur in various trains. There is no proposal to increase the same due to limited availability of accommodation and full utilisation of quotas at other stations.

[Translation]

**Losses in Coal Mines**

1904. SHRI RAMDAS SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the collieries have been running at a loss since their nationalisation except during the year from 1977 to 1980;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the amount of losses suffered during each of the last three years;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the losses and run the collieries in profit; and

(d) the scheme of Government to earn more profit therefrom in future?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI KALYAN SINGH KALVI): (a) Since its inception, coal India Limited, has been suffering losses every year except during the year 1981-82 and 1989-90 when it earned a profit of Rs. 34.20 crores and Rs. 80.13 crores respectively.

(b) Main reason for losses in coal India Limited, is that in the past the increase in administered price did not fully cover the escalation in the cost of various inputs like wages, power, fuel, explosives, capital etc. and there was always a time lag between price increase and escalation in the cost of inputs. Low productivity has also been responsible for losses. Profit/loss of CIL during the last 3 years is given below:-

Year	Profit/loss (Rs. in crores)	
	(+)	(-)
1987-88	(-)	224.64
1988-89	(-)	23.26
1989-90	(+)	80.13

(c) Some of the important steps to contain the losses of Coal India Limited and increase its efficiency are briefly indicated below:-

(i) Increase in production and productivity, with special emphasis

on underground mines.

- (ii) Improvement in availability and utilisation of equipment by providing adequate workshop support, improved management of spares and timely rehabilitation of equipment.
- (iii) Improved manpower planning including redeployment of surplus workers and restricting the intake of new employees against vacancies caused by natural wastage.
- (iv) Economy in the consumption of spares and various other inputs by improving blasting efficiency, power factor and improved inventory control.
- (v) Improved monitoring of cost reduction measures.
- (vi) Efforts are being made to reduce the total outstandings against major consumers like State Electricity Boards.
- (vii) A number of systems improvement and managerial measures have been adopted to improve efficiency of operations.
- (viii) Efforts towards reorganisation of existing mines to improve productivity.

(d) As a result of these efforts man and machine productivity in Coal India Limited has improved during the last few years and consequently Coal India Limited have earned a profit of Rs. 80.13 crores during 1989-90.

[English]

### **Complaints Against LPG Agencies In Outer Delhi**

1905. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints against LPG agencies regarding alleged malpractices in Outer Delhi especially from Meera Bagh, Sunder Vihar, Peeragarhi, Jwalahedi and Punjabi Bagh in this regard;

(b) if so, action taken thereon; and

(c) the steps taken to safeguard the interest of the consumers against such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA): (a) to (c). All complaints received against the LPG distributors are investigated and wherever established appropriate action, ranging from issuing of warning letters to even termination of distributorship, it taken in accordance with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines and Distributorship Agreements, During the year 1990 (upto November) 7 complaints have been established so far against LPG agencies operating in Outer Delhi. Regular and surprise checks are carried out by the field staff of LPG Marketing Oil companies to check malpractices.

### **Power Station in Salempur in U.P.**

1906. SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 132 K.V. power station in Salempur in Uttar Pradesh is ready to be