

(c) As a follow up action an All India Industry Ministers Conference on 'Rural Industrialisation' was held on 8th July, 1989 in which inter-alia coordination of the various field level agencies involved in promoting rural industrialisation was discussed. There was a general agreement on the approach outlined in the joint instructions, circulated vide Department of Rural Development's Letter No. 11/4/87-IRD-II dated 5th May, 1989.

Panel on Oil Industry

*34. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a panel on Eighth Plan on refining, exploration and marketing etc. in oil industry;

(b) if so, its composition and whether any report has been submitted by the panel; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). The Planning Commission has constituted a Working Group on Petroleum and Natural Gas for the formulation of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

The Working Group has Shri Lovraj Kumar, Former Secretary, Petroleum as its Chairman, and twenty two other members. The Planning Commission has also constituted five Sub-Groups on (i) Exploration and Development, (ii) Refining, (iii) Demand Projections, distribution and marketing, (iv) Natural gas availability, utilisation & distribution and (v) Research, development and conservation. Reports of the Sub-Groups, excepting that on Natural Gas, have been submitted. The Report of the full Working Group is yet to be finalised.

[Translation]

Installation of Electrostatic Precipitator in Bokaro Thermal Power Station

*35. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to instal electrostatic precipitator in the Bokaro thermal power station in Kathara region of Bihar which falls under the Central Coal-fields Limited;

(b) if so, when the said precipitator is likely to be installed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). Bokaro-A station with 4 Nos. 50/55 MW units (de-rated) having mechanical precipitators has been in service for more than 37 years. Installation of electrostatic precipitators in these units at this stage is not techno-economically viable, because of the orientation of the various auxiliaries and the age of the plant. The mechanical precipitators have been recently renovated for better performance.

Unit-1 of Bokaro-B thermal power station of 210 MW was commissioned in March, 1986. Other two similar units of Bokaro-B thermal power station are at different stages of installation. All these units have electrostatic precipitators for limiting stack emission.

Conversion of Samastipur-Darbhanga Railway Line

*36. SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: