

The New 20-Point Programme has a greater thrust in improving the standard of living of the rural poor and other weaker sections of the society and creating the necessary infrastructure and other facilities vital for the purpose. The banking system has been assigned an important role in assisting the fulfilment of the aims and objectives of the programme by orienting its credit policy.

#### Production of Thermal Grade Coal

3812. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States where thermal grade coal is located;

(b) the approximate deposits of thermal grade coal in Orissa; and

(c) the steps taken to increase thermal grade coal production ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :

(a) Coal deposits are not classified as thermal coal deposits. These deposits are, in fact, grouped into various categories of reserves based on the analysis as per Indian Standard Procedure and the coals of Class III and IV are generally utilised for thermal power generation. Coal suitable for thermal purpose occurs in some of the coalfields in West Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra, Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Khasi Jayanti Hills.

(b) As per the Geological Survey of India report (September, 1984) approx. total reserves in Orissa State are estimated to be 29,534 m.t. (In Valley : 11,145 m.t. and Talcher 18,389 m.t.). Approximately 995 m.t. of reserves are in the proved category which can be utilised for thermal power generation.

(c) Improvement of coal production suitable for power generation is a part of Plant for increase in total coal production to meet the demand. The following steps are being taken for increasing the coal production :—

(i) Re-organisation of existing mines.

(ii) Opening of new mines.

(iii) Large scale introduction of open-cast technology.

(iv) Gradual mechanisation of underground workings.

(v) Opening of longwall faces in underground mines

#### Training of Leather Footwear Technicians and Export of Leather and Leather Products

3813. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether twenty leather footwear technicians have been selected for training in Italy;

(b) if so, the other measures contemplated to train leather footwear expert in India and abroad;

(c) the details of the measures being taken to improve export of leather and leather products;

(d) the details of the export of leather and leather products in the last three years, year-wise; and

(e) the details of the incentives, loan facilities allotment of sheds, training etc. being given to the small artisans and small-scale industries in the job of manufacturing leather products ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Training abroad under bilateral assistance and in India through the network of Small Industries Service Institutes, their Extension Centres and Central Footwear Training Centres are the other measures contemplated to train leather footwear experts.

(c) Easy access to essential inputs for export production of value-added leather products, apart from publicity, participation in overseas trade fairs, sponsoring of sales-cum-study teams, market surveys etc. are some of the measures being taken to improve export of leather and leather products.

(d) Exports of leather and leather products during the last three years viz.,