

of Alcohol has considerably gone down in Uttar Pradesh in the recent past and at the same time the demand from molasses and alcohol based industries has increased. Efforts are also being made to set up new units. In view of this, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether Government propose to impose restriction on the quota of alcohol or molasses meant for export from the State? Beside, will the Government permit setting up of molasses and alcohol based industries in 'No-Industry Districts' in view of persistent demand?

[English]

**SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM :** The UP Government has declared surplus in molasses. We are aware of the problems of short-supply of alcohol throughout the country. That is why duty-free import of spirit has been allowed.

[Translation]

**SHRI MADAN PANDEY :** Sir, my question has not been replied to. I had asked whether in view of the increasing demand for molasses and alcohol and their falling production in Uttar Pradesh, will the Government stop exporting molasses and alcohol from the State and permit setting up of molasses and alcohol based industries in 'No-Industry Districts'?

[English]

**MR. SPEAKER :** Have you got anything to say to that question?

**SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM :** As I have rightly stated, the problems of short supply of alcohol are felt from the very beginning of last year. In view of this and in order to maintain the production of chemical items in the country, it was decided that duty free import of denatured spirit may be allowed. So, the Government of India has allowed duty free import of alcohol to meet the demand.

**SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :** The Hon. Minister has just now stated that the Government is aware of the shortage of industrial alcohol in several parts of the country. We have this molasses control order under which

the Government has got control over all the molasses produced in the sugar factories and that is the feed stock for extracting alcohol. But in view of the fact that there is no control over the molasses produced in the small scale Khandasari factories, will the Government extend the molasses control order to the Khandasari factories also, so that they can have control over the surplus molasses there, instead of importing alcohol?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) :** Sir, this question of bringing Khandasari molasses under the ambit of control-process is under consideration. The main factor that has led the Government to desist from any such control in the past is that the Khandasari molasses is very difficult to store. And this sale of molasses on a freely available basis has been helpful to the small cane growers; and the cane growers' representative has also been representing that this Khandasari molasses should be free, without control. We will consider this aspect. Actually, the Central Molasses Board has taken up this question. We will certainly keep the suggestion made by the Hon. Member in mind.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Leave alone drinking alcohol; we should also not talk much about alcohol.

#### New Coal Project

**\*266. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to start a number of new coal projects to increase the production of coal in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. With a view to increasing coal production, 16 coal projects with a total production capacity of 39.20 million tonnes per year at a total capital outlay of Rs. 1661.69 crores have been sanctioned by the Government during the year 1985-86. During the current financial year, to more projects have been sanctioned.

Details of these projects are given in the statement below.

**Statement**

*Coal Project Sanctioned by the Government*

S. No.	Name of the Project	Company	Target Capacity	Capital cost
			(Mty.)	(Rs. crs.)
<i>Project sanctioned in 1985-86</i>				
1.	Rajmahal 'A' OCP (RCE)	ECL	5.00	217.27
2.	Godavari Khani No. 10-A Incline	SCCL	0.57	27.31
3.	Bangwar Underground mine project	WCL	0.65	25.14
4.	RPR for Bina OCP	CCL	4.50	140.55
5.	Dipka OCP	WCL	2.00	56.05
6.	Sonepur Bazar 'A' OCP	ECL	3.00	192.96
7.	Tandsi Underground Phase-I Project	WCL	0.90	51.58
8.	Khadia OCP	CCL	4.00	400.00
9.	RPR for Amritnagar (Reorgn.)	ECL	1.14	65.45
10.	Gevra Opencast (Expn.)	WCL	10.00	224.39
11.	Nandan Underground RPR project	WCL	0.60	17.89
12.	RCE for Kusmunda OCP	WCL	6.00	168.45
13.	Central Workshop	WCL	Non-mining project	23.87
14.	Advance Action for Piparwar OCP	CCL	...	10.54
15.	Srirampur No. 3 & 3A inclines	SCCL	0.30	10.46
16.	Ravindra Khani No. 1-A incline	SCCL	0.54	29.78
		Total :	39.20	1661.69
<i>Projects sanctioned in 1986-87 (till date)</i>				
1.	Captive Power Stations for CIL mines & washeries	CIL	Non-mining project	147.60
2.	RPR for Sobhapur (U. G.) mine	WCL	0.60	20.70

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIYA :** The Minister has given 18 projects, their target capacities and what will be the capital cost of these projects. But he has not mentioned as to how much manpower and quantum of land will be required for these 18 projects. May I know from the Hon. Minister this information, as also the number of villagers who will be affected, and the number of persons who will be uprooted? Is there any plan for their rehabilitation? How many projects have been started so far?

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** All these facts are available in the project reports. The number of men required will differ from project to project. Details regarding how much land will be required, acquisition of land, payment of compensation—all these things are normally taken care of, when the projects are implemented. I do not have ready figures in respect of each project, viz. how much manpower etc. will be required. If the Hon. Member wants them, I will supply him with all the information.

**SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA :** I think he can give information in respect of the total manpower required.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** I will supply information about the total manpower required.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :** Is it a fact that the Chari Committee constituted by the Government to enquire into the working of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. have recommended an Investment Holiday, and said that no project should be taken up in ECL for a number of years now? If so, may I know what is the reaction of the Government? Has the Government decided to close down 12 coal mines in ECL? Will this also affect the production of coal?

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** The Chari Committee has not recommended that no new investment should be made.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIYA :** They have used the word 'Investment Holiday.'

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** Investment holiday means no investment.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :** I have got the report.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** We are still examining the Report of the Chari Committee. It is not necessary that everything said in the Chari Committee Report would be accepted by us. It is true that the Chari Committee has recommended that 10 to 12 mines which are uneconomical where the production cost goes up nearly 3-4 times more than existing costs of production of coal, which is on an average today Rs. 210 a tonne, now, if such uneconomical mines are there and if the Parliament and the country and everybody wants that we should continue with uneconomical mines at the cost of nation, it is a different matter. But our coal mines must become economically viable; that is the basic thing and that is the responsibility of all of us, if we want to be answerable for the investment of the country.

**SHRI LAL VIJAY PRATAP SINGH :** Would he give preference to new projects where semi-coking coal or blendable coal is available in plenty and infrastructural facilities like railways and other transport facilities are available?

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** All these factors are taken into consideration while starting coal projects.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** The Minister has said that the Chari Committee has recommended the closure of some mines which are uneconomical; and he also said that the Chari Committee Report is being studied. Am I to understand that before the study is completed—the government has already decided, as announced by him the other day in the other House that 12 mines under the Eastern Coalfields Ltd. are to be closed? The decision has already been taken. He knows very well that for the coal industry, there is a body called the JBCCI, which is a tripartite body, collective body, where all these matters pertaining to the industry have always been considered. How is it that this decision to close down mines taken without

bringing the matter before the JBCCI, and will they re-consider that please ?

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** That body is also closed down.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** All such decisions will be taken in consultation with the JBCCI. I am not aware of our having taken a decision; you say, I announced it in the other House.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** I got it in the press.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** Not to my knowledge because press sometimes does give reports which may not be fully correct.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** That is advance publicity.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** Even if we have taken a decision on the ground of economy to close down these mines, we are willing to have it discussed with the JBCCI. I can assure you, we want to take labour and everybody into confidence while taking any such measures.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :** Parliament also.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** Parliament of course, not also; Parliament first.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** It involves a question of employment of quite a large number of People and all that.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** We will consider all these factors; nothing adverse to the interest of the employees will be done.

**SHRI ANANDA GAJAPATHI RAJU :** In view of the fact that there are around 5 million tonnes of coal at the pit head which has not been transported,...(*Interruptions*) this way or that way; I do not have the statistics—but coal mines, power plants and steel plants, that infrastructural problem is there. There is a lot of bottleneck in it; and consequently, our power plants in Andhra

Pradesh, also Ramagundam, are not functioning to the optimum level because of these bottlenecks. Therefore, would he consider or would he take steps to de-bottleneck all this type of situation; if so, what steps he would like to take ?

**SHRI VASANT SATHE :** We are constantly in collaboration and coordination with the Railways. And fortunately, because of our regular interaction with the Railway Ministry we are now in a position to move coal in a better way from wherever pithead stocks are there. And this bottleneck will be removed. It is a fact that at some pitheads there is more quantity of coal because they are the pitheads which are not linked with rail, but they are road-head pitheads. If road movement does not take place as desired, then those stocks increase. About five million tonnes that the Hon. Member mentioned, a substantial part of it is coking coal which in one sector could not be moved because the washery is not ready. There has been delay in the commissioning of that washery by about four years. In the Rajarappa and Kadally areas, such difficulties are there. But we have already reduced our pithead stocks from 29 million tonnes to 21 million tonnes. That shows that we have been able to move our coal substantially.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Next question.

**SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :** Question No. 267.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) :** Sir,...

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** What is your point of order ?

**PROF. K. K. TEWARY :** Sir, this happens everyday. Whenever I rise to reply to the question, Prof. Dandavate raises one point or the other.

Setting up of industries in some districts of Kerala

**\*267. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :