

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI):** (a) and (b) Loans are not being sanctioned against paid-up capital, but long-term loans are sanctioned by Government to Coal India Ltd. in addition to the subscription to the equity capital for financing the companies' development plan. During 1980-81 out of a budget provision of Rs. 353 crores for plan schemes of Coal India Rs. 53.26 crores has been sanctioned towards equity and Rs. 8.5 crores as loan to Coal India to maintain the production of coal and to increase it to the target levels laid down in the five year and annual plans. The annual plan for the current year envisages a production of 99 million tonnes of coal.

**Agreement with Senegal for production of Phosphatic Fertilizers**

\*750. DR. FAROOQ ABDULLA:  
SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and Senegal have agreed to set up a joint project in Senegal to produce phosphatic fertilisers;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed;

(c) if so, the details of the same;

(d) what will be India's participation in the project; and

(e) what will be its conditions?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL):** (a) It has been agreed in principle that a consortium of Indian companies will participate in the setting up of a joint venture phosphate fertiliser plant in Senegal.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The proposed participation will be upto 20 per cent of the equity capital of the Senegalese Company which will be about \$20 million. The Indian consortium, apart from having a right to participate in the management of the new company, will be entitled to get 33 per cent of the phosphoric acid to be produced in the proposed project.

**Demand to Amend Dowry Prohibition Act**

\*752. PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the response of Government to the demand of various women's organisations to amend the existing Dowry Prohibition Act; and

(b) whether Government proposes to make the Act more comprehensive so as to prevent the evil of Dowry?

**THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR):** (a) The demand of the various women's organisations to amend the existing Dowry Prohibition Act is under the active consideration of the Government.

(b) Yes, Sir.

**Violation of M.R.T.P. Act by Britannia Biscuit Company**

\*753. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any case of violation of MRTP Act has come to the notice of the Government with regard to Britannia Biscuit Company or any of its allied/subsidiary companies;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether violation of Company Law, of any kind by the said Company has come to the notice of Government; and

(d) if so, details of action taken thereon?

**THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER):** (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Statement

No case of violation of the MRTP Act has come to the notice of the Government with regard to Britannia Biscuit Company (now Britannia Industries Limited). It has no allied/subsidiary companies. However, the MRTP Commission has instituted the following two enquiries against the company:—

(a) Restrictive trade practices enquiry under Section 10(a)(iv) of the MRTP Act alleging the following restrictive trade practices being indulged by the company.—

(i) High expenditure under certain heads.

(ii) Arbitrary Price Increases.

(iii) Price Differential.

(b) Restrictive trade practices enquiry under Section 10(a)(iii) of the MRTP Act alleging the following restrictive trade practices being indulged by the company.—

(i) Allocation of territory.

(ii) Resale price maintenance;

(iii) Exclusive dealings.

These enquiries are still pending before the Commission. No enquiry relating to monopolistic trade practices has been instituted by the Commission against the company.

#### Depiction of Women Characters in Films

\*754. **SHRI BRAJIMOHAN MOHANTY:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government are aware that in more than 75 per cent of Hindi commercial films and art Cinemas, women have been depicted as inferior to men; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VASANT SATHE):** (a) and (b) It would be difficult to generalise that in more than 75 per cent of Hindi films women have been depicted as inferior to men. It may be that the image of Indian women is distorted in some films. However, where such distortions contravene the provisions in the Cinematograph Act 1952 relating to public order decency and morality, necessary excisions are made in the films by the Board of Film Censors.

#### Supply of Natural Gas by Bangla Desh

\*755. **SHRI MOHAMMAD ASRAR AHMAD.**

**SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:**

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bangla Desh has proposed to sell one trillion cubic ft. of natural gas to India and Government of India have agreed to bear all expenses in laying all pipe lines;

(b) if so, when this scheme is expected to materialise and supplies started; and

(c) has any agreement been signed and if so, what are its terms?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL):** (a) to (c). Only preliminary talks to explore the possibility of import of Natural Gas from Bangladesh have been held between the two sides recently. No firm commitment have been made by either side.