

proper comparison of the costs of producing liquid fuel from coal with the cost of importing oil indicates that even in 1956 it would have been cheaper to import oil instead of producing it from coal. Further studies made in 1977 and 1980 also led to similar conclusions.

Very recently, after this question was raised in this House, I have had this matter examined once again and it has now been decided to constitute an Expert Group to review the latest technologies available for production of oil from coal and to examine the feasibility of setting up pilot plant facilities for evaluating the most economical processes available for this purpose.

(c) Does not arise.

Short Receipt of Coal at Destinations

*39. SHRI JAIPAL SINGH KASHYAP: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in rail transportation there is invariably short receipt of coal between 5 per cent to 15 per cent by the consumer at its destination;

(b) if so, whether one of the factors responsible for short supply of coal to the consumer could be short loading by the colliery staff responsible for the loading of coal; and

(c) if so, what precise measures have been taken by the Government to ensure that loading of coal at pit-heads is done according to specifications?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) There are occasional complaints made by consumers regarding short receipt of coal. Coal Companies cannot, however, account for short receipt of coal at the destination. Coal is sold on FOR colliery basis and

the weight of coal is certified in the Railway Receipt issued by the Railway Weighbridge clerk after weighing. Coal Companies have been given strict instructions to ensure that there is no short loading at the loading point. CIL have set up a large number of weighbridges at the loading points.

Expansion of Haldia Refinery

*40. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA:

SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the expansion of Haldia refinery would be delayed further;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) is there any proposal to take up the expansions programme immediately in view of the country's need for petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) to (c) Expansion of the Haldia Refinery is scheduled for completion in the Seven Plan period; no delay in this is anticipated.

Study of tidal power in Gulf of Kutch

231. SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study for tidal power potential in the Gulf of Kutch has been made and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the sites for tidal stations have been selected; and

(c) when these tidal power stations are likely to be set up and the estimated cost thereof?