

Restrictions on Import of Technology

1320. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to impose stringent checks on the import of technology; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). Government policy for import of Technology continues to be selective. Government have also consistently recognised the importance of Research and Development in both Public and Private Industrial Undertakings with a view to achieving self-reliance in technology. Foreign investment and collaboration is restricted in sectors where indigenous technical know-how has been developed to an adequate level within the country and also in fields of relatively low priority. However, import of technology is being considered on merits if exports are guaranteed.

Procurement Target of Coal

1321. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the procurement target of coal from Talcher of Ib river sector of Mahanadi valley of Orissa as fixed by the Union Government; and

(b) steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The Government does not fix any procurement target for coal. Talcher and Ib river are two different coal-fields in Orissa. The present production in the coal mines in these coal-fields is of the order of 1.25 million tonnes and 0.75 million tonnes respectively. The Coal India Ltd. have plans to increase production further in these two coal fields

Spare parts of Automobiles

1322. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the manufacturers of spare parts of automobiles are facing serious difficulties for the last one year as a result of falling production of automobiles, specially the passenger cars by the automobile manufacturing plants; and

(b) if so, the remedy to be adopted by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) and (b). No serious difficulties have generally been experienced so far. The situation will improve as production and sales of passenger cars move up as expected.