

found, Is the Government thinking of appointing an expert panel to probe into capacity utilisation of computers and electronic data processing machines used in various government departments and public sector corporations? ..

SHRI K. C. PANT: If my hon. friend has gone through the statement which I have given, he will see that the Electronics Commission does look into this matter as to what is the capacity available, what are the particular uses of the consumers, and where can pooling be done for the benefit of all government departments located in an area. All these things are definitely looked into the Electronics Commission.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTION

Poverty Conditions in India

*24. **SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1325 on the 28th January, 1976 regarding poverty conditions in India and state the number and proportion of population below poverty line in the urban and rural areas, separately, as in 1973, 1974 and 1975?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SANKAR GHOSE): No fresh information has become available since the reply was given to the Unstarred Question No. 1325 on the 28th January 1976.

Accumulation of Coal at Pit Heads due to fall in quality

*31. **SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is accumulation of coal at pit heads and consequential reduction in production target by

ten million tonnes because of fall in quality;

(b) whether complaints have been received regarding supply of coal, specially from M.P. coal fields; and

(c) if so, steps taken to improve the quality?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI K. C. PANT) (a) No, Sir. The accumulation of pit head stocks is due to the demand for coal being below the anticipated level and not due to any fall in quality. The demand for coal by the end of 5th Five Year Plan is now estimated at about 124 million tonnes as against the earlier estimate of 135 million tonnes.

(b) Some complaints have been received from time to time from the consumers regarding supply of inferior quality of coal by the coal producing agencies including those supplying coal from M. P. Coalfields.

(c) Several steps are being taken by coal producing organisations including introduction of screening and sizing arrangements, joint sampling, setting up quality control Departments, Complaint Cells, introduction of contracts with Bonus-cum-Penalty clause, posting of inspectors at the loading points etc so as to ensure the supply of the required quality of coal to consumers. Besides, this, a committee has also been set up to go into the question of quality of coal supplied by the collieries which will make recommendations regarding the steps to be taken for the production and supply of suitable coal to the consumers.

Hydro-Electric Potentials in Chakra and Varahi Rivers

*32. **SHRI P. R. SHENOY:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chakra and Varahi rivers in Karnataka are having hydro-electric potential; and