

District Savings Officer. Also, depositors are allowed to file their photographs in the Post Office Savings Bank to facilitate easy identification. Further, it is proposed to issue Identity Cards to depositors in rural areas free of cost.

Import of Coking Coal

*45. SHRI C. N. VISVANATHAN:
SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coking coal is imported or proposed to be imported for supply to steel plants; and

(b) the reasons for import and consequent drain on foreign exchange when coking coal is available in India.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to import some quantity of low ash coking coal for use in our steel plants.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Reasons for import of low ash coking coal:

1. Stocks at steel plants have come down to unacceptably low levels and it is necessary to build up stocks by supplementing indigenous supplies.

2. Availability of indigenous coal during 1978-79 may fall short of the increased requirements substantially, and any unforeseen dislocation in supplies could have serious consequences resulting in damage to costly plant and equipment.

3. Imports of low ash coal would also help to arrest the trend of deterioration in quality of indigenous supplies and increasing ash content

which have been causing serious technological problems at the steel plants.

4. Blending of low ash imported coal would yield significant gains in productivity and production at the steel plants.

5. The foreign exchange position is extremely good and we should take advantage of this to step up production in the steel sector where demand is picking up. Import of some coking coal would also extend the life of our limited reserves which are non-replenishable.

6. With a view to conserving the limited reserves of coking coal in the country it is desirable to gain experience in the optimum blending and use of imported low ash coking coal.

7. Due to the present recession in the world steel industry this is an opportune juncture for obtaining competitive prices for imported coal.

Educated Unemployed

*49. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any schemes to solve the problems of educated unemployed in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of educated unemployed registered with the various employment exchanges in the country as on 31st December, 1977 and how many persons are likely to be covered during the next financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. RAM KIRPAL SINHA): (a) to (c). The available information regarding the educated job-seekers (Matriculates and

above) on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges refers to 30th June, 1977, which was 53.91 lakhs. During the next Financial year, the number of persons likely to be covered would depend on the employment opportunities created. As per the employment strategy for the next Five Year Plan, which is under formulation, broadly, the largest employment would lie in intensive agriculture through expanded irrigation, allied activities like dairy development, horticulture and forestry, rural works and cottage and small scale industries. New jobs will also be created by investments in infrastructure and the provision of agricultural inputs and also in the Service Sector. Substantial employment opportunities during the next Plan are to be provided to the educated unemployed also, besides others.

परिवार कल्याण के क्षेत्र में उपलब्धियां

* 50. श्री सुखेन्द्र सिंह :

श्री आर० बी० स्वामीनाथन :

क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राज परिवार कल्याण के क्षेत्र की उपलब्धियां वर्ष 1977-78 के लिए निर्धारित लक्ष्य से बहुत कम रही हैं ; यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ख) परिवार कल्याण को सफल बनाने के लिए क्या नीति अपनाई जा रही है ; और

(ग) इस समय जन्म दर क्या है और सरकार का इसे 1980 तक कितना कम करने का विचार है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव) : (क) 1977-78 के प्रथम नौ महीनों (अप्रैल-दिसम्बर) के दौरान गर्भरोधन के अनेक तरीकों से सम्बन्धित जितने अनुमानित लक्ष्य पूरे किए गए वे नीचे दिए गए हैं :

तरीका	वर्ष के अनुमानित लक्ष्य	उपलब्धियां 1977-78 (अप्रैल-दिसम्बर)
स्वेच्छा से नसबन्दी*	4,000,000	569,031
आपरेशन		
लूप निवेशन	1,000,000	184,546**
अन्य तरीके	5,000,000	2,713,875

*अप्रैल, 1977 से स्वेच्छिक 1 अगस्त, 1977 में यह स्पष्ट कर दिया गया था कि स्वेच्छिक नसबन्दी आपरेशनों के कार्य में प्रत्याशित स्तर प्राप्त करने के लिये जोर नहीं दिया जायेगा ।

**इसमें नये बनाये गये 25,325 कापर टी लूप भी शामिल हैं ।