

Suitability of Assam Coal for Steel Plants

*219. SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-SHEKHARA MURTHY;

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA:

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

(a) whether it has been found that Assam coal is suitable for steel plants;

(b) if so, how far this is true; and

(c) whether extensive tests were made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) to (c). Extensive tests were made at the Central Fuel Research Institute Laboratory and Coal Blend and Coking Research Laboratory at Jamshedpur. Plant scale tests were made at the Coke Oven Battery of Durgapur Projects and Bhilai Steel Plant. It was found that since the Coal is high in sulphur, its use can be limited upto only 10 per cent in the blend. Use of

this coal in higher proportions will depend on establishment of facilities for desulphurisation of hot metal. 1000 tonnes of Assam coal are expected to be sent to Durgapur Steel Plant shortly for actual trials in the Coke-Oven Battery.

Raising of Power Rates by D.E.S.U.

*220. SHRI R. L. P. VERMA:

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to raise the power rates by D.E.S.U. for Delhi citizens;

(b) if so, what would be the revised rates; and

(c) the justification for increasing these power rates?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposed revised rate for the year 1979-80 are as under:

Category	Rates applicable w.e.f. 1-4-79 (average)
Domestic	25p/Unit upto 100 units. 30p/Unit next 100 units. 35p/Unit beyond 200 units.
Non-Domestic (LT)	46p/Unit.
Mixed load (LT)/MLI	45p/Unit.
Industrial (small)	33p/Unit.
Industrial (Large)	37p/Unit.
Agricultural	20p/Unit.

These rates are exclusive of Central excise and Electricity duty.

(c) The wide-gap between the revenue income and expenditure of D.E.S.U., is attributed to abnormal

increase in its expenditure as a result of rise in the prices of fuel and other operational stores, increase in establishment expenditure and purchase of thermal power etc.