

1980 to grant mining lease to the Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. for exploitation of coal in Surendra Nagar District; and

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard during the last five years ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b). In February, 1980 the State Government of Gujarat came up with a request for grant of mining lease in favour of Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited for exploitation of coal in certain villages in District Surendranagar. They, *inter-alia* requested to allow the aforesaid State Undertaking to sell the coal to be mined by them on cost plus profit basis. The proposal has been considered in the light of Central Government's existing policy regarding grant of mining lease for exploitation of small deposits of coal in isolated small pockets in the States by the State Governments through their public undertakings but the same has not been agreed to.

[English]

DR. A.K. PATEL : Sir, the date of request from the Gujarat Government was February, 1980. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, when was the reply sent to the Gujarat Government to this subject in question.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, we have replied to the State Government in 1983 informing them that they have to follow... The whole difference was on account of the fact that they wanted to charge their own rate for coal and as coal prices, administered coal prices are fixed throughout the country, that could not be agreed to. And if there is any alternative proposal, we will examine it.

DR. A.K. PATEL : What are the Government's views and suggestions regarding exploitation of coal in Surendra Nagar district and in my district Mehsana which is in my Constituency where abundant coal is there ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We are willing to allow the State Government through its own Department, to explore these coal mines and extract coal and that is why, we suggested that they can do it. The difference is only about what price they should charge. If they agree to have the same price which is uniform nationally, then there will be no problem.

In Mehsana also, they can do it.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA : Will the hon. Minister state whether in the event of GMDC or the State Government not being allowed, whether Coal India Ltd. will be asked to exploit coal in Mehsana district and in Surendra Nagar district ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Coal India takes up projects only when there is extensive possibility of coal mining. In isolated small pockets, the policy is to allow it to be done by the State Government itself and this we have been doing in West Bengal and Assam and other parts also. It will be uneconomical for Coal India to go in for very small coal mines.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : The position in my Constituency is that for the last ten years these deposits exploited with no profit or benefit either to the State or Union Government. It is a mass theft, taking the coal away through thefts and nobody is getting any benefit out of it. Can't the State and the Central Government sit together and work out a strategy whereby this is regularised and legalised ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : How can we legalise thefts ? The best thing is for the State Government to accept the uniform national pricing and that will resolve the problem.

Conservation of Energy in Industrial, Agricultural and Household Sectors

*684. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have undertaken measures to conserve energy in the industrial, agricultural and household sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the industrial sector the process of determining norms for consumption of energy has been initiated with a view to monitoring usage in the energy intensive industries. The other measures, *inter-alia*, include the installation of capacitors for improving the power factor, introduction of schemes for the conservation of coal resources through improved extraction methods and advisory services on the utilisation of fuel oil by industries, in order to bring down the consumption, in a phased manner.

In the agricultural sector rectification of inefficient pumpsets has been undertaken alongwith provision of advisory services to agriculturists relating to installation of energy efficient electrical and diesel pumpsets.

In the household sector, a National Programme on Improved Smokeless Chullas has been launched which are more thermal efficient, reduce consumption of wood, smoke and drudgery considerably.

(c) A keener awareness is developing in all sectors of the need to conserve energy.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : I am happy that the Government is aware of the energy loss in the various sectors and the need for conserving energy. A lot of energy has been lost in transmission, electrical energy, due to inefficient machinery in the industrial sector and inefficient pumpsets in the agricultural sector. I would like to know whether you have conducted a study on the percentage loss of this energy in the various sectors and how does it compare with the percentage in other developed nations.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It is very difficult to identify in terms of percentage the energy loss in each sector. But, overall, it is a guesstimate that the loss is 10% in the country and if various energy conservation

methods are adopted in industry particularly where the largest consumption of power takes place—80% as I said the other day—then we will be able to save substantial consumption of power. But this requires basically an attitudinal change in all sectors including ourselves—there is so much of waste of energy even in our sector, political sector ! So, basically the attitude of energy conservation is required. If that takes place, then, I am sure we can conserve energy.

As I said, as far as transmission losses are concerned, steps are being taken. We are proposing to bring a Central legislation also to declare this a punishable and cognisable offence because transmission loss is another word for actual theft of power. That has to be made culpable and punishable.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What is preventing you from doing it ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We are bringing a Bill in this Session itself. I am introducing it in this Session...
(Interruptions)

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Transmission losses are difficult to check...
(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE : That you can discuss it with all together. It is a wider question...
(Interruptions) I have written a book on that. Members can read it if they like—how to conserve that energy.

AN HON. MEMBER : Kindly suggest it in the House....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please, it is not a free for all.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Thank you very much.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : I think the Ministry is aware of the conservation of political energy also. I hope he will take steps in that direction.

My question was something different. It was whether the percentage of loss of energy in our country in transmission and

due to poor equipment is higher when compared with developed countries, or when compared with what is permitted—there is a permitted loss. Is it higher? That was my first question. He did not answer it.

My second supplementary is that in view of this loss of energy, I would like to know what steps you are taking to promote the use of non-conventional energy, especially solar energy, then comes the wind energy, tidal energy, etc. What are the steps you are taking to propagate the use of this energy?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : The transmission losses in our country are very high. As I said during the discussion on the Demands for Grants, it is 21% compared to average maximum of about 8 to 10 per cent in other countries.

You have asked sectorwise what is the loss and have we made a study. So I was replying to that.

Therefore, the best way to do it is to save on the transmission loss. That is only one aspect. In industrial uses, in actual use, there is so much loss because of inefficient use of machinery and power. For example, pump sets, etc. There, I said an overall 10% power can be conserved by having better pumps sets.

As far as non-conventionnal sources of energy are concerned, as I submitted the other day, the best way to energise and make our rural areas energy sufficient is to resort to an integrated energy concept of using non-conventional sources of energy and that is why we have given the concept of Urja Gram based on the use of non-conventional sources of energy like biogas, biomass, solar, wind where wind is available and such similar non-conventional sources of energy.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : It is generally said that the line losses are large with regard to electricity and power thefts are also becoming more and more. There is political power theft also. As far as electricity is concerned, power thefts are more. Supposing you are able to control power thefts and also the line losses, we can give electricity free to the poor agriculturists, I want to know whether such

a scheme can be implemented and whether the Government of India is going to introduce in such a manner that free supply of power will be given to the agriculturists by controlling the line losses and also the power thefts.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Line losses, as I said in the beginning, are the same as transmission losses. They are to be controlled and they can be locally controlled. But it is mainly for the States to take measures to do that, because the major part of production and distribution is taking place in the State sector. Therefore, if they take those measures, yes, as far as free power is concerned, it is for them to decide if they save on power, whether they can give power cheaper or free. But I do not particularly like the idea of giving anything free....

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : For poor agriculturists. It is a major input for agriculture.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : It is morally demoralising to give man anything free.

As far as political power is concerned, there also theft is taking place and as to what measures should be taken, you should know better.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : There you are their allies for taking away power.

West German Know-How for Development of Medicines

*687. **SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to have a tie up with West Germany for the development of medicines and to acquire the latest know-how in this field; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) There is no such proposal with my Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.