

23.05 Billion Tonnes proved reserves were established. New legislative amendments were made to permit mining by companies engaged in the business of generation of power, manufacture of iron & steel and cement for mining coal for captive consumption. The prices of coking coal and A,B,C, & D grades of non-coking coal were de-regulated during the Eighth Plan.

(b) The following steps were taken by Mahanadi Coalfield Ltd. during last three years.

- (i) 5 on-going projects with aggregate capacity of 10.83 Mt/Y were completed.
- (ii) 5 on-going projects with an aggregate capacity of 20.10 Mt/Y are in advanced stage of implementation.
- (iii) Advance Action on 5 projects having aggregated capacity of 29.9 Mt/Y have been taken up.
- (iv) 4 project reports for an aggregate production capacity of 21 Mt/Y have been approved by Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. Board.

(c) Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. proposed to increase its production from a level of 37.36 Mt. (1996-97) to a level of 47.25 Mt by the terminal year of IX Plan (2001-02)

Import of Coal

473. **SHRI GURUDAS**

DAS GUPTA:

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering import of coal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Under the present export and import policy, coal can be freely imported by the consumers themselves considering their needs and

exercising their own commercial judgement. Government do not propose to import coal to meet the needs of any consumer.

Health facilities to coal mine workers

474. **SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:** Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to provide better health care facilities to the coal mine workers;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction by different coal companies;

(c) whether the Mahanadi Coal Field limited (MCL) has done anything during last three years in that regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the last few years various special/uper special facilities like Neonatology, Dialysis Unit, ICU, TMT and Holter monitor, Neurosurgery with Whole Body CT Scanner Unit, Endoscopy Unit, Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy, Physio Therapy Unit etc. have been created at various hospitals of CIL.

(c) and (d) The details of steps taken in Mahanadi Coalfields limited (MCL) during last three years are given in the statement attached.

Statement

The details of steps taken in Mahanadi Coalfields Limited during last three years are as under:

- (1) 250 bedded Nehru Satabadi Central Hospital has been commissioned at Talcher in June, 1995 in phased manner with 100 beds in 1st phase having 12 specialised department. This hospital is well equipped with 8 bedded ICCU and full fledged pathology