

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	Silica sand/Class-sand	Kachchh	72243	83280	14683
		Panchmahals	674	—	—
		Bharuch	23165	64200	160010
		Rajkot	470	2362	682
		Vadodara	4	—	—
		Surat	120	370	—
		Sabarkantha	2597	2919	926
	Sandstone	Surendranagar	38839	22976	43934
		Total	138112	176107	220235
26.		Rajkot	8075	4359	3533
27	Soapsione	Sabarkantha	599	355	431

Note (x) Provisional

Revision of royalty on Coal

2722. SHRIMATI CHANDRA-KALA PANDEY: SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minsiter of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether on 1st August, 1991 the Union Minister of Coal made an upward revision of royalty on coal payable by the holders of mining leases to all States except West Bengal and Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether projected loss vis-a-vis the revision of royalty for other States amounts to Rs. 200 crores; and

(d) whether at the time of further revision in 1994, West Bengal was again excluded and the projected loss of West Bengal will now go up to Rs. 260 crores?

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

(b) The royalty rates on coal were revised upward * on 1.8.1991 following requests for the same by some of the coal

producing States whose Cess Acts levying cess on coal were struck down by the Supreme Court on 4.4.1991. resulting in loss of cess revenue to such States. The Governments of West Bengal and Assam, however, continued to levy and collect cess on coal as their Cess Acts had not on date been struck down. Under the above situation and considering that enhanced royalty rates together with the cesses levied by West Bengal and Assam would have cascading effect on the price of coal to the consumers, the royalty rates in respect of these two States were not enhanced on 1.8.1991.

State Govt, of Assam, however, withdraw the land tax on coal in February, 1994. At their request, the rates of royalty for coal produced in the State of Assam were appropriately enhanced w.e.f. 25.3.94. The case of West Bengal Govt, is still pending in the Supreme Court.

(c) and (d) Govt, of West Bengal is levying cesses on coal, the incidence of which is around 40% of the pit head price of coal. The rates of royalty fixed on 11.10.94 is on weight basis and varies

from Rs. 30 to Rs. 195 per tonne of coal. The States other than West Bengal are collecting only royalty on coal whereas the West Bengal Government is collecting royalty at the rates prior to 1.8.1991 and the cesses as levied by them. Thus the Govt. of West Bengal is collecting more revenue per tonne of coal in comparison to other States. Therefore, there is no loss of revenue to the West Bengal Government.

The Government of West Bengal was not allowed enhanced royalty rates at the time of royalty revision dated 11.10.94 because they continue to levy and collect cesses on coal.

Electricity bills pending with Tannery and Footwear Corporation

2723. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of electricity charge bills presently pending with the Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited;

(b) whether the arrears were further accumulated by decisions of Court of L.T.V.;

(c) whether electricity connections for production by the company was disconnected on account of non payment;

(d) whether the company further moved representations with State of Uttar Pradesh but all in vain and if so, the facts and details thereof;

(e) whether Government would take initiative to get the electricity restored; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Electricity bills amounting to Rs. 33.95 lakhs received from Kanpur Electricity Supply Administration upto November, 1993 are pending with TAFCO. Further bills have not been received after the

power supply was disconnected during November, 1993.

(b) The Tariff was enhanced by the Kanpur Electricity Supply Administration but the revision was stayed by the Allahabad High Court initially. The stay was however vacated during March, 1993. The revision of Tariff with retrospective effect has increased the arrears payable by TAFCO.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) After disconnection of the power supply, the Company had approached the State Government and the electricity authorities but the supply could not be got restored due to the Company's inability to clear the dues.

(e) and (f) Such operational problems which are caused by acute scarcity of resources inspite of Government's budgetary support are taken care of by the Company.

Sick Iron Ore and Manganese Mines in Orissa

2724. SHRI RAHASBIHARIBARIK: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some iron ore and manganese mines have fallen sick in Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons of their sickness;

(c) the date since when those mines have fallen sick;

(d) whether Government propose to revive any of those sick mines; and

(e) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) to (c) As per information available with the Indian Bureau of Mines, some mines of Iron ore and manganese ore lying closed or work in them has been temporarily discontinued. The reasons for