

CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir. A National Project for Bio-gas Development (NiBI) has been under implementation in all the State/Union Territories including Arunachal Pradesh.

(b) The project has helped rural families to meet their cooking fuel needs by recycling of organic wastes. It also provides enriched manure, and healthy and hygienic conditions in households.

(c) A total of 87 biogas plants have been set up in the State upto 31.3.1991.

Natural Gas for Maharashtra Power Stations

1105. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have asked the Union Government for Natural gas to set up gas based power stations in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An additional allocation of 1.5 million cubic metres per day has been made to MSEB raising its total allocation to 4.5 million cu. m. per day.

Dispute between Indian Ship owners and ONGC

1105-A. SHRI SOM PAL, SHRIMATI MIRA DAS; SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a dispute going on between Indian Ship Owners and the ONGC on offshore vessel hiring rates-

(b) whether Government are aware that foreign shippers are taking advantage of the situation while Indian vessels are totally idle and this is draining our valuable foreign exchange; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to solve the tangle and ensure better utilisation of indigenous shipping capacity particularly in view of the recent acute foreign exchange crisis?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The Indian Ship Owners have been demanding a higher operating cost in respect of the OSVs hired by ONGC under cost plus formula particularly in view of the recent wage settlements. There has also been some difference of opinion between the Ship Owners and the ONGC regarding implementation of certain contract terms.

(b) and (c) While action has already been initiated to resolve the above issues, these have not led to any advantage to foreign companies nor resulted in any outgo of foreign exchange. As on date, ONGC have engaged all the available Indian flag OSVs.

Superior quality coal for ceramic Industries

1105-B. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV-SHANKER DAVE; Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation from Gujarat Government for supplying the superior quality of coal for ceramic industries have received, and

(b) if so, what are the details of action taken by Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGAUDAR): (a) Several representations have been received for supply of adequate quantities of

superior quality coal to ceramic industries of Gujarat from various organisations.

(b) Steps are being taken by the Govt. to increase production and despatch of coal with a view to improve its availability to all consumers, including ceramic industries. Ceramic industry generally insists on supply of coal from a few underground mines where production has not kept pace with increase in demand. If the industry were to accept coal from other sources also its level of satisfaction will be much higher.

बी०सी०सी० एल० के अध्यक्ष एवं प्रबंध निदेशक के पुष्टिकरण को रोका जाना

1105-ग. श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कोल इंडिया के वर्तमान अध्यक्ष ने बी०सी०सी०एल० के अध्यक्ष एवं प्रबंध निदेशक की सेवाओं के पुष्टिकरण को रोक दिया है क्योंकि वह एक निश्चित स्तर तक उत्पादन बढ़ाने में असमर्थ रहे हैं ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि अपनी नियुक्ति की पुष्टि करवाने के लिए अध्यक्ष एवं प्रबंध निदेशक ने बी०सी०सी०एल० के सभी एकांकों पर 3-4 महीनों तक इस बात के लिए दबाव डाला था कि वे यह रिपोर्ट भेजें कि प्रत्येक कोयला क्षेत्र एकक में उत्पादन बढ़ा है तथा उन्होंने यह भी दर्शाया था कि कुल उत्पादन में 10 प्रतिशत वृद्धि हुई है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार इस मामले की एक संसदीय समिति या केंद्रीय जांच ब्यूरो द्वारा जांच कराएगी और यदि हां, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं और क्या यह मामला स्थानीय समाचार पत्रों में भी प्रकाशित हुआ था ; और

(घ) क्या कोल इंडिया के सी० एम० डी०, एन० सी० एल० ने वास्तविक उत्पादन से 5 प्रतिशत कम उत्पादन दिखाकर एक बहुत बड़ा धोखा किया है और यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार मामले की जांच कराएगी ?

कोयला मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री एस० बी० नयमगोड़ा) : (क) से (घ) इस संबंध में सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और इसे सभा-घटन पर रख दिया जाएगा ।

12.00 NOON

[The Deputy Chairman in the Chair] Chair]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Report and Accounts (1989-90 of the Indian Airlines and related Papers.

II. Report (1989-90) of the Commission of Railway Safety, Lucknow.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): Madam, I lay on the Table—

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) Annual Report of the Indian Airlines for the year 1989-90, under sub-section (2) of section 37 of the Air Corporations Act, 1953.

(ii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Airlines for the year 1989-90 and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 15 of the Air Corporations Act, 1953.

(iii) Review by Government on the working of the Airlines.