

Fire in Hindustan Petroleum Gas Plant at Mahul Refinery

1094. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a major fire broke out in the storage tank of the Hindustan Petroleum gas plant at Mahul refinery near Trombay in north east Bombay; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the loss of life and property on this account?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) There was a major fire in a portion of the Dewaxing Unit of Lube Plant of Bombay Refinery of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited.

(b) No loss of life has been reported. Some equipment and material in the Dewaxing Unit has been damaged.

दिल्ली और मुजफ्फरपुर के बीच वायुसेवा संयक

1095. श्री रजनी रंजन साहू : क्या नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दिल्ली और मुजफ्फरपुर को वायु सेवा से जोड़ने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस योजना को कब तक कार्यान्वित कर दिया जायेगा ?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री माधव राव सिधिया): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Fire in Storage-tanks of aviation fuel near Ludhiana

1096. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a fire broke out in storage tanks of aviation fuel in Mullanpur near Ludhiana on April 22, 1991.

(b) if so, how much aviation fuel was burnt down in the fire;

(c) whether Indian Oil Corporation has conducted enquiry in the cause of the fire; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) 868255 litres of Aviation Fuel was burnt in the fire.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The exact cause of the fire could not be established by the Indian Oil Corporation.

Accident at Giddi Coal Project

1097. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 32 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th July, 1991 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an accident in coal mines and allied operations have recently taken place at Giddi (CCL);

(b) if so, the causes and circumstances thereof;

(c) whether there was any fatality/serious injury;

(d) whether Government have taken any action in the matter; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGAUDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A greaser-helper at Giddi (C) Colliery of Central Coal-fields Limited, while unauthorisedly riding on a dumper on 12-6-91, fell down and was run over by the same dumper sustaining fatal injuries.

(d) and (e) Departmental enquiry has been instituted in addition to the statutory inquiry conducted by the Director General of Mines Safety. Funeral expenses and ex-gratia payment were duly arranged and compensation amount deposited with the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner.

Expansion of Refineries

1098. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answers to Unstarred Question 62 and 79 given in the Rajya Sabha on 15th July, 1991 and state:

(a) what is the estimated quantity of petrol proposed to be imported during 1991-92 (with value in foreign exchange);

(b) what is the percentage of annual growth in the consumption of petrol in the country and by what percentage the demand is estimated to rise during the next three years;

(c) what is the additional refining capacity created during 1988-90 and by what percentage the estimated projection of refining capacity is likely to be achieved during 1991-92; and

(d) what are the details of the strategy drawn up by the Government for the expansion of the existing refineries and for setting up new refineries during the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Nil.

(b) Growth in consumption of petrol during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 has been 8.6 per cent, 14.4 per cent and 1.4 per cent respectively. Growth in the demand during the next three years will depend on number of factors including conservation mea-

asures, fiscal policies and demand management measures.

(c) and (d) During 1989-90 no additional refining capacity was created. During 1991-92 also in additional refining capacity is likely to be created. Expansion/debottlenecking of existing refineries will result in creation of additional 8.65 MTPA capacity. New refineries at Karnal, Mangalore, Numaligarh and Narimanan will create new refining capacity of 12.5 MTPA. These projects are at various stages of implementation/approval.

Royalty on coal

1099. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 39 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th July, 1991 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to raise the royalty rates payable to the coal producing States; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGAUDAR): (a) and (b) The rates of royalty on coal were last revised in February, 1981 and were due for revision in February, 1985. However the rates have not been revised so far mainly because most of coal producing States were levying heavy cesses on coal. Since levy of cesses by most State Governments has been set aside by courts, a proposal to enhance the rates of royalty on coal, is under consideration of Government of India.

Load shedding in Delhi

1100. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a regular load-shedding by D. E. S. U. in areas under its control;

(b) if so, the duration of such load-shedding locality-wise of Delhi;