

details thereof and what are the reasons for the delay in their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Mission Approach for Population Control**

2012. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the population is the main cause of India's present socio-economic imbalance as reported in the 'Indian Express' of 28th April, 1990; and

(b) whether Government had received any suggestion from the Society for Citizens Concern, New Delhi dated the 3rd June, 1988 on the urgent need to have a mission approach on this subject and if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) Increasing population obviously has an impact on socio-economic development of the country.

(b) A suggestion has been received from the Society for Citizen Concerns, New Delhi, to have a technology mission approach to implement the family welfare programme. The need of having such a technology mission has been examined by Government from time to time. It has been decided not to have a technology mission but to monitor the programme closely.

**Availability and Demand of Electricity per day in Kerala**

2013. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTON: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total availability and demand of electricity per day in Kerala;

(b) whether Central Government are aware that Government of Kerala is going to start new industries in private sector;

(c) whether the Central Government has been approached for more power by Government of Kerala; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Illegal mining in BCCL and CCL areas**

2014. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that illegal mining is openly being carried out in BCCL and CCL areas;

(b) whether Government are also aware that illegal mining is closely inter-wined with crime and mafias in the areas; and

(c) if so, what are Government's plan to control such activities and by when?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c) There is no organised illegal coal mining in the lease hold areas of Central Coalfields Limited and Bharat Coking Coal Limited. However, a few isolated cases have been reported in Bharat Coking Coal Limited where miscreants have cut and stolen coal from abandoned open cast mines, abandoned incline mine and outcrop region. Such cases have been reported to the Police by the Management.

The Coal Mines Nationalisation Acts were amended in 1976 making illegal coal mining a cognizable offence.

punishable with imprisonment extending upto 3 years and fine extending upto Rs. 20,000/-.

The vires of these amendments have already been upheld by the Supreme Court in 1980.

The State Governments have been asked to take both punitive and preventive action against the offenders in terms of the Nationalisation Acts read with provisions of the Indian Penal Code. The coal companies have been directed to report the cases of illegal extraction of coal as and when detected by them to the law enforcing authorities in the States. Besides, the coal companies in conjunction with the State Government's law enforcing authorities in the States conduct surprise raids to apprehend offenders.

#### **Shuttle service between Ahmedabad and Bombay**

2015. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any request from Gujarat Government to start shuttle service between Ahmedabad, and Bombay to be connected with international flights; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A single service as requested for would not be able to cater effectively to the numerous international flights arriving/departing with varied timings. Instead, multiplicity of choice offered by the connections provided by the existing scheduled flights between Bombay and Ahmedabad cater to the requirements in a better way.

#### **Coal Linkage to Narmada Thermal Power Station in Gujarat**

2016. SHRI VITHALBHAI M.

PATEL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Narmada Thermal Power Station in Gujarat has been given coal linkage; if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government are aware that the delay in sanctioning this coal linkage will lead to a deficit in meeting the demand for power in agricultural and Industrial sectors in the State during the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) Coal linkage to the Narmada Thermal Power Station in Gujarat has not been *given so iur us it has not been* identified by the Planning Commission for yielding benefits during the Eighth Plan period. However, various other power projects to be set up, both in the Central and State sectors, would yield benefits to Madhya Pradesh during the Eighth Plan period.

#### **Kutch Tidal Power Project**

2017. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of the Kutch Tidal Power Project;

(b) by when the project is likely to be sanctioned by Government; and

(c) what is the likely date of its commencement?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The Central Electricity Authority, while evaluating the techno-economic feasibility report of\* the Kutch Tidal Power Project during 1988-89, considered it necessary to carry out additional investigations and studies on certain aspects of the project. These investigations/studies are under progress.

(b) Further action in regard to