

Inferior quality of coal supplied to thermal power plants

827. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the thermal power plants in the country suffered in power generation and damage to the plants because of the supply of inferior quality of coal during the last two years;

(b) in how many cases during the last two years, coal supplies were found underweight (with quantity); and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) According to the Central Electricity Authority, it is correct that thermal power plants have suffered in power generation and damage to plants because of the supply of inferior quality of coal during the last two years. However, it is difficult to quantify the loss suffered in generation as well as by damage to the plants exclusively on account of inferior quality of coal.

(b) Complaints have been received from some thermal power stations regarding discrepancies in the consigned weight (R.P. Weight) and the actual weight of coal received at power plants. Details regarding the number of cases in which coal supplies were found underweight during the last two years are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Houses.

(c) Government are aware of the need to supply coal of proper quality and size to thermal power stations. For the purpose, installation of coal handling plants and crushers is being expedited, quality control organisations have been set up in local companies, a statutory body, namely, Coal Controller, has been constituted to sample and grade coal, and it has been decided that joint sampling of coal will be carried out at the power stations end.

Awarding of tenders to Singapore American Trading Company for supply of Arab; mix and Nigerian crude

828. SHRI KISHOR MEHTA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Singapore American Trading Company Private Limited has been awarded two major Indian tenders dated the 7th March, 1984 and the 10th April, 1984 regarding supply of Arab mix and Nigerian crude at varying prices;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether the credit worthiness of the firm was checked before awarding the contracts; and

(d) whether this company is in any way connected with Kuwait Oil company; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): (a) and (b) Two tenders one dated 7th March 1984 for import of 660,000 bbl of Arab Heavy and 1260,000 bbl of Arab light and other dated 10th April 1984 for export of 10,000 bbl/day of Nigerian crude with Arab Mix (Arab Light and Arab Heavy in ratio of 65:35) were awarded to Singapore American Trading Co. Pvt. Ltd. These were awarded to the party after evaluating its offer against tenders.

(c) This party is on the mailing list of Indian Oil Corporation since March 1983 and the party has performed satisfactorily against earlier contracts.

(d) There is no such information.

Employees' participation in management

829. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

SHRI ARABINDA GHOSH;

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the present scheme for the employees' Participation in Management the workers will have any say even in the application of the scheme as per the