

Development of coal mines

178. SHRI B. C. PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps for the development of (some more coal mines in the country;

(b) if so what are the names of the coal fields brought under the development programme;

(c) whether Government have identified Talcher and Ib valley coal fields Orissa for development; and

(d) if so, what are the details of the development measures proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL, IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI DAT - BIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Practically all the known coal-fields such as Singrauli, Rani-ganj, Rajmahal, Talcher, Ib Valley, North Karanpura, Wardha, Pench, Kanhan, CIC, Korba, East Bokaro, Mugma-Salanpur, Kamptee-Umer-Goda, VaVi Valley and coalfields of North Eastern Region have been brought under the development programme.

(d) The following expansion/new projects have been approved for further increasing production from Talchar and Ib Valley coalfields in Orissa:

(Talchar Coalfield)

1. Bharatpur Opencast
2. Jagannath Expansion

Valley Coalfield:

1. Belpahar Opencast.
2. Lajkura Opencast.

Amendment of Indian Telegraph Act

179. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

whether Government propose to amend the Indian Telegraph Act with

a view to making diversion of telephone lines a cognizable offence; and

(b) if so, by when a Bill for the purpose is likely to be introduced in Parliament?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Bill to amend and enlarge the scope of certain provisions of the Indian Telegraph Act including the offence mentioned in part (a) has been introduced during the Monsoon Session of the Rajya Sabha on 26-8-1983.

Hydro-Carbons in West Bengal

180. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the assessment made by Indo-Soviet experts in 1979, an area covering 11,000 sq. kms. in West Bengal is considered highly prospective regarding discovery of hydrocarbons; and

(b) if so, whether any commercial discovery of hydrocarbons has since been made in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI SHIV SHANKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No Sir.

Electrification of some Delhi Areas

181. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to electrify the area from Hargovind Enclave to Anand Vihar and Srestha Vihar and also to electrify the areas on the Outer Ring Road between Chander Nagar and Vivek Vihar in Delhi;