

respectively, during the last three years;

(b) whether Government propose to issue instructions to the Central Ministries and public sector units to effect economy in the consumption of petrol; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this

regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) The percentage of bulk petrol supplies made directly by oil companies to major public sector and private sector units during the last three years is given below:

Year	Total All India Sales	Direct bulk Sales			Direct bulk sales as% to total		
		Pub. Sector	Pvt. Sector	Total	Pub. Sector	Pvt. Sector	Total
1979-80 . . .	1490	122	19	141	8.2	1.3	9.5
1980-81 . . .	1522	116	13	129	7.6	0.9	8.5
1981-82 . . .	1599	127	15	142	7.9	0.9	8.8

Data on sales to these sectors from retail outlets is not available.

(b) and (c) Instructions to effect savings in the consumption of petrol in staff cars have already been issued to the Central Ministries and Department, State Governments and Public Undertakings.

Prohibition of Child Labour

*215. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

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

(a) what is the total number of child labour employed in Match and Fireworks factories of Sivakasi, with details of age groups and the number of such labourer killed in the explosions in these factories during the year 1982;

(b) whether it is a fact that the children employed in Match and Fireworks industries are neither getting fair wages nor medical care from their employers; and

(c) whether the Central Government have any proposal under their consideration to prohibit employment of child labour in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMAVIR) :

(a) About 3986 child workers are employed in the match and fireworks factories, registered under the Factories Act, 1948 in Sivakasi area. Details of age groups are not available. No child worker was killed in explosions in registered factories in 1982.

(b) Child workers working in registered factories are getting minimum wages fixed by the Government under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. These child workers are covered by the Employees' State Insurance Scheme and as such, they are getting medical benefits.

(c) there is no such proposal presently under consideration.

Contravention of Provident Fund Rules by Pharmaceutical Companies

*216 SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the companies engaged in the pharmaceutical trade are contravening provident fund rules applicable to employees;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these companies have not been depositing ESI contribution of their employees for a number of years; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken by Government against such companies in both cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMAVIR):

(a) to (c) According to available information, there are cases of individual establishments which have defaulted in payment of provident fund dues. The EPF organisation is taking necessary legal and penal action against such establishments in accordance with the provisions of the EPF Act. The information regarding the establishments which have defaulted in payment of ESI contribution is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

National Coal Wage Agreement

*217. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

SHRI LAKHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the items, incorporated in the National Coal Wage Agreement II signed in 1979;

(b) the progress made with regard to the settlement and implementation of each item especially those relating to housing, standardisation of work, promotion, health and safety; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to meet the grievances of coal workers?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) The National Coal Wage Agreement-II, signed on 11th August, 1979, *inter alia*, incorporates agreements on minimum wages; DA; Underground and other Allowances for workers. It also includes work-norms; provision of housing facilities, Railway Travel Concessions and other social security benefits including Medical facilities and welfare measures.

(b) Agreements relating to wages, allowances and workload etc. have been fully implemented by coal companies. As regards welfare measures like housing, water supply, medical facilities, there has been some delay mainly due to constraints of availability of land, steel, cement, etc. The Standardisation Committee has met and taken a number of decisions which have been implemented and some of them which could not be finalised are being considered by JBCC-III.

(c) The demands of coal workers and other pending items of NCWA-II on which agreements could not be arrived at are being considered by JBCCI-III.

Poor Performance of 120 MW sets

*218. SHRI N. P. CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of the 210 M.W. sets continues to be poor;

(b) whether the poor performance of such units has caused the Central Government and the State Electricity Boards a loss of Rs. 44 crores;

(c) whether the first 210 M.W. set commissioned at the Singrauli Super Thermal Station has been on the sick list since September, 1982; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for the poor performance of these sets and what steps are being taken by Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) Not exactly, Sir.

(b) It is difficult to quantify the precise loss of revenue, but it is roughly estimated to have been of the order of Rs. 6 crores.

(c) No, Sir. The unit was operating satisfactorily in September, 1982.

(d) There were initial difficulties on account of deficiencies in the quality of equipment and operation and maintenance. As a result of steps taken to improve the performance through constitu-