

Strike in Jhagarkhan^a colliery

17. SHRI SURENDRA MOHAN; SHRI
M. KALYANASUNDARAM;

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it is a fact that about 20,000 mining workers in the coalfields of Jhagarkhand in Madhya Pradesh had been on strike and the same was called off on April 8, 1982 on the basis of an agreement reached between the workers and the authority;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that the said agreement has not been implemented as yet; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Some mining workers of Jhagarkhand Area of Madhya Pradesh mostly piece-rated loaders had gone on strike from 2-4-82 and this strike was called off on 8-4-82 on the basis of a settlement reached between MPKMS and Area management of Jhagarkhand.

(b) The agreement *inter alia* envisaged that the issues which have already been agreed upon mutually should be implemented within a month's time subject to submission of specific list by the union and that the remaining points will be discussed within a month. It was also agreed that there shall be no victimisation on account of the strike.

(c) and (d) The union has not so far submitted the list of items to be implemented in terms of the above mentioned settlement. Discussions will be held after the list is submitted by the union.

Setting up of geo-thermal energy units

18. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has taken up the programme to explore the possibility of setting up geo-thermal energy utilisation units; and

(b) if so, what are the details of locations which have been identified in different parts of the country for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Geological Survey of India have recorded the existence of over 340 thermal areas represented by hot springs and warm springs in various parts of the country. However, the actual geo-thermal parameters are yet to be established in most of the areas. For the present the activities in the field of geo-thermal energy in the country are concentrated in the promising areas of Puga Valley in Ladakh District of Jammu and Kashmir and Parbati Valley in Kulu District of Himachal Pradesh.

Production of coal

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

(a) whether Government have launched any productivity drive in the field of coal in the current financial year;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to increase the production of coal in the current year; and

(c) if so, what is the target of coal production set for the year 1982-83?