

at Dankuni with a capacity to carbonise 1,500 tonne/day of raw coal to produce smokeless coke and coal gas to meet the fuel requirement of Calcutta Metropolitan area. The foundation stone of the project was laid on 29th December, 1981 by the Prime Minister.

Land has already been acquired for the plant and township. Turn-key contract for installation of the project has already been awarded. Work on land filling, civil construction, power supply etc. is in progress. The project is expected to be ready for commissioning by September, 1984.

Electronic Telecommunications Management

2318. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the manufacture of electronic switching systems is done under P & T and the Electronics Commission separately;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have any scheme to bring the management of electronic telecommunications net work under one organisation; if so, what are the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that Semi Conductor Limited (SCL) has made a technical collaboration agreement with an American Company; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL): (a) and (b) Electronic Switching equipment for use in the Public network is at present being manufactured only by M/s. Indian Telephone Industries Ltd., a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Communications.

(c) The public Telecommunication network is managed by the P & T Department.

(d) and (e) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Functioning' of Indraprastha Thermal Power staU

2319. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the functioning of Indraprastha Thermal Power Station has deteriorated during the last few months; and

(b) whether an Additional General Manager of DESU is its ex-employee and the CBI had earlier recommended his dismissal for irregularities and corruption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir, There has been some fall in total generation, but this is due to planned shut-downs of different Units for their maintenance/overhaul which was long overdue, and for installation of Electro-static Precipitators to eliminate air-pollution.

(b) The present incumbent of the post of Additional General Manager (Tech.) is a permanent employee of D.E.S.U.

The C.B.I. had initially advised DESU to take action for imposing a major penalty against the said employee for alleged delay in finalising a purchase case and not for corruption. He was finally exonerated on the advice of the Central Vigilance Commission which held that the charge had not been established.

Conversion of Present Parliament into Constituent Assembly

2320. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any processing is under way to study the manner in which the present Parliament could

be legally converted into a Constituent Assembly; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY" AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGANNATH JKAUSHAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not rise.

Payment of bonus to electricity workers in Pondicherry

2321. SHRI V. P. MUNUSAMY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Electricity Department in Pondicherry does not fulfil the condition for the grant of bonus to its workers;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government of India propose to relax the condition in respect of Electricity Department, Pondicherry for the grant of bonus at par with the other Electricity Boards in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Electricity Department in Pondicherry is a Government department and therefore the question of payment of bonus to its workers does not arise.

Appointments Of Persons belonging to SC/ST In E.D. Posts

2322. SHRI V. P. MUNUSAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of ED appointments made in the Pondicherry Postal Division for the last three years;

(b) what is the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates appointed during this period;

(c) whether the instructions to the effect that candidates belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities should be given top priority, while appointments are made to E.D. posts are not deliberately followed in Pondicherry Division; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken against the defaulting officers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL): (a) The total number of ED appointments made in the Pondicherry Postal Division for the last three years is 97.

(b) No. of SC candidates was 16; and No. of ST candidates was 1.

(c) The instructions regarding giving preference to the SC/ST candidates are always kept in mind so that at least the reserved quota vacancies can be filled up. Unfortunately, sufficient number of "eligible" SC/ST candidates did not come forward to fill up the E.D. appointments.

(d) Question does not arise.

Expert Committee recommendations on polling system

2323. SHRI HARVENDAR SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the expert committee constituted by the Election Commission among its major recommendations has favoured one-day country-wide poll and also introduction of electronic voting machines;

(b) if so, what is Government's reactions in the matter; and

(c) what are the other important recommendations of the committee?