

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGANNATH KAUSHAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendations made by the Committee are still at the stage of consideration by the Election Commission.

(c) The other main recommendations *inter alia* relate to intensive revision of electoral rolls just before a general election, periodical inspection of places where the election materials are stored by the Chief Electoral Officer or his deputies and the administrative set-up of the election machinery in the States and Union territories. As regards the election machinery in the States and Union territories, it has been recommended that the Chief Electoral Officer should be preferably Chief Secretary, or one of the senior Secretaries in a State, preferably with field experience, and in the Union territories, it would be desirable to designate the Chief Secretary alone as the Chief Electoral Officer. The recommendations also suggest the quantum of additional staff for revision of rolls and conduct of elections and the period for which additional staff might be sanctioned.

Setting up of Enforcement Wing by MRTP Commission

2324. SHRI HARVENDAR SINGH: HANSPAL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up an enforcement wing by the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether some measures are also proposed to be taken to encourage competition among the monopoly houses to ensure supply of quality goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) At present, there is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The High Powered Expert Committee (Sachar Committee) has *inter alia*, made some recommendations for prohibiting certain types of restrictive trade/unfair trade practices. The recommendations of the aforesaid Committee in regard to the amendment of the provisions of the MRTP Act are under active consideration of the Government. However, initiation of measures to encourage competition to ensure supply of quality goods will not fall within the ambit of MRTP Act or the MRTP Commission.

Extracting coal from areas under inhabitation

2325. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any (steps or made studies for extraction of coal from mines in urban areas without affecting the structures and buildings and shifting of population;

(b) whether any study has been made to transport coal by pipelines as is done in some European countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): (a) Central Mining Research Station, Dhanbad is working on development of techniques for working beneath surface features, water bodies and other constraints) by the control of the mining harmony.