

Oil Refinery at Mangalore

1204. SHRI B. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration for the setting up an oil refinery at Mangalore; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b) Government are looking into the recommendations of an Expert Committee, set up to examine the question of creation of additional refining capacity after 1985-86, which has, *inter alia*, suggested Mangalore also as one of the possible locations for a new refinery.

Working capacity of collieries under the Coal India Limited

1205. SHRI SURENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of collieries under the Coal India Limited have been working below capacity;

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

(c) what are the details of the coal production during each month of 1979 and during each month from January to April, 1980?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Some of the collieries under Coal India Ltd, particularly in Bihar and Bengal area, have been working below capacity. The main reasons for lower utilisation of capacity has been the reduced coal output due to constraints like inadequate availability of power, uncertain law and order situation, and shortage of other essential inputs.

(c) All India coal production month-wise for the period January 1979 to April 1980 is indicated below:

1979	(million tonnes)
January	9.93
February	9.33
March	11.19
April	7.97
May	7.79
June	7.60
July	8.06
August	7.78
September	7.90
October	7.87
November	8.69
December	9.45
1980	
January	9.91
February	10.09
March	10.84
April	8.90

Black out of news/statements of the opposition party leader

1206. SHRI SURENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that All India Radio and Television blacked out the statements of the opposition parties who did not attend the meeting convened by the Prime Minister on 31st May, 1980.

(b) whether only the news about the participants in the meeting was made available to the press; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) No, Sir. In fact, AIR and Doordarshan gave coverage to the statement of the President, Bharatiya Janata Party, explaining the reasons for not participating in the meeting.

(b) No, Sir. Soon after the meeting, the press was briefed wherein it was, inter alia, mentioned that the Prime Minister had read out the letters of those opposition leaders who had expressed their inability to attend the meeting, including the letter of the Lok Dal leader received only a few minutes before the start of the meeting.

(c) Does not arise.

Captive power stations by small and medium size industrial units

1207. SHRI SURENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have permitted the small and the medium size industrial units to have their own captive power stations;

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

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) The Government have not issued general permission for the construction of captive generators for the small and medium sized industries. In accordance with the existing policy on captive power plants, in industries where process steam is required or where waste heat is available, captive generating capacity would be encouraged in accordance with the 'Total Energy Concept'. Cases falling outside the total energy concept are considered favourably on merits by the Government of India.

1208. [Transferred to the 27th June, 1980].

Exploration of off-shore oil in collaboration with Norway

1209. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA: SHRIMATI AZIZA IMAM: SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state the details of large-scale technological transfer from Norway to India in the field of off-shore oil exploration and its production?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): There is no such transfer of technology from Norway to India nor any proposals are in view. A contract has however been signed between Oil and Natural Gas Commission and OILDECO of Norway for a limited study in Formulating field development concepts for deep water oil fields.

Bigger outlay for oil exploration

1210. SHRI DHARAMCHAND JAIN:

DR. LOKESH CHANDRA: SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA: SHRI LADLI MOHAN NIGAM:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Working Group on policy set up by the Planning Commission has suggested bigger outlay for oil exploration; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) In December, 1979, the Chairman of