

in Delhi in February, 1980 about the functioning of the Press Council of India and state the details of the measures Government propose to take to put teeth into the functioning of the Press Council?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI V. P. SATHE): In the speech referred to, I had, inter-alia, mentioned that the Press would be better served by an inbuilt mechanism to evaluate objectivity and that the Press Council is eminently suited to provide such a mechanism. Having regard to the objects and functions of the Press Council as contained in Section 13 of the Press Council Act, it is essentially for the Press Council to devise appropriate measures, in order to be more effective.

Denationalization of coal Mines

363. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:
SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND:
SHRI SAT PAUL MITTAL;

Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that some State Governments have been urging the Central Government for denationalisation of the coal mines because of acute coal shortage during the recent past;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction to meet this demand; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to increase production of coal and to ensure that adequate supply of coal reaches all consumers?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Some of the measures adopted to increase coal production are;

(1) Attempts are being made to improve power generation in DVC which supplies the bulk of the power to collieries in Eastern India where production has been affected due to power shortage.

(2) Import of explosives has been arranged to cover the gap between demand and indigenous availability.

(3) Instructions have been issued for the allotment of diesel on a priority basis to the Coal Industry.

(4) Steps are being formulated to curb absenteeism among workers which is usually heavy in the first three months of the year.

(5) The State Governments have been requested to strengthen the law and order machinery in areas where production has been affected by frequent disruptions in the law and order. A close watch is being kept on the situation.

(6) Assistance of the State Governments has been sought in expediting land acquisition for commencing new projects.

The production and movement of coal is regularly reviewed by the Cabinet Committee on Industrial Infrastructure that has been formed under the Chairmanship of the Union Finance Minister.

Documentary Films

364. SHRI U. R. KRISHNAN; Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the documentary films produced by the Films Division for the Tamil Nadu State Government have been withdrawn from screening in Tamil Nadu; and