

(c) what action Government have taken against the culprits; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to curb such illegal mining activities in future?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) Information is being collected.

Baweja Committee Report on economics of coal industry

354. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Baweja Committee on the economics of coal industry has submitted its report to Government; and

(b) if so, what are the recommendations of the Committee and what action Government propose to take thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The Committee appointed by Government to go into the cost of production of coal and suggest economies, headed by Shri G. C. Baweja has since submitted its report.

(b) The report is under examination by the Government. The recommendations cover matters like cost structure, employment, maintenance of stores, material management, marketing, organisational set up, economies etc.

P.M.'s negotiations with President Carter regarding supply of uranium for Tarapur Plant

355. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:
SHRINKP.SALVE
SHRI SITARAM KESRI:
SHRI VENNIGALLA SATYA-
NARAYANA;
SHRI ARVIND GANESH
KULKARNI:

SHRI T. BASHEER;
SHRIMATI USHI KHAN;
SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any negotiations took place between him and President Carter during his recent visit to the U.S.A. in regard to the supply of enriched uranium for the Tarapur Atomic Power Plant; and

(b) if so, what was the outcome of these negotiations?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) and (b) There was a discussion on this subject during the talks with President Carter. The Hon'ble Members' attention is drawn to the Press reports that the export of 7.6 tonnes of enriched uranium has been cleared.

Import of Cotton

356. SHRI GOVINDRAO RAMCHANDRA MHAISEKAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the import policy in regard to cotton; and

(b) what are the quantities of cotton imported during 1977-78 and so far during 1978-79?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (KUMARI ABHA MAITI): (a) and (b) It is the policy of the Government not to import cotton in circumstances that would be detrimental to the interests of the indigenous cotton growers.

During the cotton season 1976-77 (September—August) about 8.18 lakh bales of cotton had been imported. During the current cotton season 1977-78 a spill over quantity of 2.07 lakh bales of cotton out of the quantity contracted during the previous year, had been received.