

ments of the Plan, namely, the stabilization of prices, will be absent. And if this particular phenomenon continues, then, how will it be possible for you to stabilize prices and build the Plan on the basis of stabilized prices?

SHRI D. P. DHAR: Sir, I agree with the hon. Member that price stabilization is the first aim that the Government has set before itself. What the causes of distortion are which arise in the levels of prices have been analysed and they are being carefully studied. And Government is particularly going to undertake measures by which an endeavour will be made to contain the prices. It is a peculiar phenomenon that even when certain commodities are produced in plenty, they are not available in plenty at all.

There are shortages. This brings us to numerous questions and I think that the Committees of the two Houses of Parliament which are studying the Plan in particular relation to production, distribution, manner of distribution, manner of procurement, etc. would go into the details of these questions and be able to evolve some recommendations for the Government on these issues.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Use of alternative sources of energy in view of oil crisis

*328. **SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI:**

SHRI M. S. ABDUL KHADER:
SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR
ADIVAREKAR:

SHRIMATI RATHNABAI SREENIVASA RAO:

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state the steps Government have taken or proposed to take to make use of alternative sources of energy in view of the present oil crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): In view of the increase in the price of oil in the international market, the various possibilities of reducing the consumption of oil and using other forms of fuels like coal or electricity are under examination of the Government. A number of Technical Committees have been set up to examine the possibilities of using coal in place of oil in power generation, industrial furnaces and fertilizer production. The possibilities of using other forms of energy like Solar power, wind power and tidal power are also under consideration of the Department of Science and Technology.

Employment Guarantee Scheme

*329. **SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR:**

SHRI KRISHAN KANT:

SHRI GURMUKH SINGH MUSAFIR:

SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE:

SHRI J. S. TILAK:

SHRI V. B. RAJU:

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

DR. Z. A. AHMAD:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state the details of the steps that are proposed to be taken during the Fifth Five Year Plan for instituting employment guarantee scheme for rural and urban unemployed persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): An Employment Guarantee Scheme has not been included in the Fifth Five-Year Plan for providing employment to the rural and urban unemployed persons. However, considerable job opportunities are expected to be provided through the implementation of various Plan Programmes in the fields of agriculture, soil conservation, major, medium and minor irrigation, large medium and small scale industries, employment promotion schemes, power, social services, including education, health, transport, housing etc.