

- (v) Enabling investments in energy efficiency projects on a performance linked repayment business model.

In respect of coal based Thermal Power Plants, adoption of more efficient Super Critical Technology for power generation and retirement of inefficient thermal generation units.

(b) Ministry of Power has planned various new initiatives in the areas of buildings, LED lighting, appliances, energy-intensive industries and coal based Thermal Power Plants, which, *inter-alia*, include:

- (i) Making 75% of all new commercial buildings ECBC compliant;
- (ii) Extending the coverage of ECBC to the residential sector;
- (iii) Mandatory energy efficiency upgrades of existing public buildings through retrofits;
- (iv) Replacing incandescent domestic bulbs with LED bulbs;
- (v) Replacing street lights across the country with LED lamps;
- (vi) Coverage of more appliances under voluntary and mandatory labeling program;
- (vii) Star labeling for passenger car and formulation of fuel consumption stable for heavy duty vehicles;
- (viii) Introduction of Super-Efficient ceiling fans;
- (ix) Deepening and widening of Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) Scheme through addition of new designated consumers and inclusion of new sectors, namely, Railways, Distribution Companies and Petroleum Refineries.

The expected energy saving from the proposed new initiatives would be 121 Billion Units (BU) by 2018-19.

#### **Motor Vehicles Agreement with Bhutan, Bangladesh and Nepal**

\*150. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has approved signing of a Motor Vehicles Agreement between India and three other nations of the SAARC group—Bhutan, Bangladesh and Nepal, and the details thereof; and

(b) whether the agreement would allow seamless transit of passenger and cargo vehicles among these nations and promote safe, economical, efficient and environmentally sound road transport in the sub-region and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) The Transport Ministers of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) signed the BBIN Motor Vehicles Agreement (MVA) for regulating and enabling passenger, personal and cargo vehicle cross border traffic in the four countries on 15th June 15 at Thimphu in Bhutan.

(b) This agreement will reduce cost and time consuming process and procedures as at present and make cross border trade and transport in and through the North-East region of India to and from Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal more efficient. It will help enhance people to people contact.

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### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

#### Proposals to open new coal mines

1441. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are any proposal open new coal mines soon;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these new coal mines would be helpful curbing the coal imports; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) Coal India Limited (CIL) envisaged taking up 129 new coal mining projects for an ultimate coal production capacity of 458 million tonnes per annum during the Twelfth Five Year Plan. Out of these, 21 projects have already been approved and 20 have been approved in-principle. A contribution of 87 million tonnes is envisaged from new projects in 2016-17 and 182 million tonne in the year 2019-20. This additional coal production is envisaged to improve availability of coal.

However, coal can be imported freely as it is under open general license.