

in Twelfth Empowered Steering Committee (ESC) meeting and was recommended for preparing the DPRs.

- (4) The proposals for the rest of the four towns are being developed by the concerned State Government.
- (5) In addition, 5 leading CPSUs namely WAPCOS, EIL, NBCC, NPCC and EPIL have been entrusted the work of ghat repair/modernization works along Ganga in all the 5 States. Proposals for repair/modernization/ development of 28 ghats (including 11 crematoria) have been approved in Uttarakhand at an estimated cost of ₹ 71 crore. Sixty one more ghats (including 13 crematoria) are under approval in Uttarakhand, UP and Bihar, as proposed by these CPSUs.

Electricity from gas produced from human waste

*9. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware that gas produced from decaying human waste can be used as a source of electricity while improving sanitary condition;
- (b) whether the Ministry has made an assessment in this regard and whether this form of renewable energy can be scaled up;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The processing of human excreta through specially designed anaerobic digesters produces biogas. If biogas is produced in large quantity, the same can be utilized as a source of generating electricity. The process also helps in improving sanitation.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. However, wherever, the human waste is available in the large quantity, the biogas technology can be deployed for useful purpose. Under the National Biogas and Manure Management Programme (NBMMP) scheme of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, household biogas plants based on cattle dung waste, are linked with the sanitary toilets which also depend upon the acceptability of the individual household. The process of scaling up of toilet linked biogas plants and their acceptance is directly related with the perceptions of the rural and semi-urban masses. The large systems of excreta disposal through biogas plants to be technically effective requires fulfillment of certain requirements, such as –

- (i) Surface soil should not be contaminated.
- (ii) There should be no contamination of surface water and ground water that may enter springs or wells.
- (iii) The water requirements for toilets per capita should be restricted to the limit as required for anaerobic digestion of human waste.
- (iv) The system should be foolproof from accessible to flies or animals.
- (v) There should be freedom from odors or unsightly conditions.
- (vi) The effluent left out of the biogas system should require no handling and requires covered safe disposal.
- (vii) The human excreta based biogas plant leftover slurry should not be permitted to be touched by open hands while transforming it into organic manure which can be used for different purpose.
- (viii) The method used should be simple and inexpensive in construction and operation.
- (ix) There should not be any danger of air pollution.

Stocking of coal by CIL

*10. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Coal India Limited (CIL) is in a big dilemma over production and finding it difficult to further stock the fuel;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that CIL is not keen to rationalize prices and rather looking at methods to boost sales to keep weak subsidiaries in profit;
- (c) whether CIL has reached a situation when the production cannot be optimized due to inability to stock coal further, which has already reached 40 MT due to sluggish demand; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) There has not been over production by Coal India. However, on account of lower demand of power from State distribution companies, the demand for coal by power generation companies has not kept pace with the increase in coal production. Efforts are being made to liquidate the stocks through a variety of measures.

(b) Price decisions of CIL are based on movement indices, market conditions, international price etc. and the same is under constant watch to enable to take price related decisions at appropriate time.

(c) and (d) CIL has recently taken a series of measures towards ease of business to facilitate consumers sourcing required quantity of coal in its effort to liquidate the coal stocks. The measures include the following:-