

- (ii) Coal is produced in a large number of locations. Freight subsidy with too many producing centres and for a large quantity would pose insuperable difficulties.

Shutting Down of Oil Wells

1773. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the replies given on August 28, 1990 and February 26, 1991 Unstarred Question Nos. 3262 and SQ. 60 respectively regarding shutting down of oil well and state:

- (a) whether the Government has examined the report of the Committee of technical experts; and
- (b) if so, the main recommendations of the Committee, the action taken by the Government thereon and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAD): (a) and (b) The report is under the consideration of the Government.

Power Connections to Unauthorised Colonies

1774. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "JJ Power connections breed encroachment" appearing in the Indian Express dated March 22, 1991;
- (b) if so, the details of action likely to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether the survey has been conducted in Delhi to determine the number of persons who have taken light direct from the poles; if so, the details thereof, area-wise;

(d) whether employees of Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking are also involved in this power theft; and

(e) if so, the action taken against those found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (e) No formal survey has been conducted by DESU to determine the number of persons who have taken light direct from the poles. However, according to DESU, there are more than 600 JJ Clusters in Delhi and the inhabitants of such areas illegally draw electricity by direct tapping from the street light poles provided by the Delhi Development Authority/Delhi Administration. Attempts made by DESU to prevent theft of power in such cases is resisted by unlawful elements of the localities creating law and order problems. DESU does not support the observations made in the said news item that the provision of power connections to JJ Clusters and unauthorised colonies encourages illegal encroachment. DESU carries out the electrification of only those unauthorised colonies which are covered under the directions issued by the Delhi Administration/Delhi Electricity Control Order, 1959. In case the unauthorised constructions/encroachments are removed by the concerned authorities, DESU can remove its service lines. Specific cases of connivance of DESU staff in the theft of power are looked into by DESU for appropriate action.

Opening of Booking Centres in Hilly Areas, U.P.

1775. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer the reply given on May 22, 1991 to Unstarred Question No. 9819 regarding Railcum-Road reservation centres (Out