

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken for the exploitation of lignite ore from these locations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Geological Survey of India (GSI) have conducted regional exploration for lignite in the states of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu. The estimated reserves of lignite are as under :

- (i) 3943.06 million tonnes in Neyveli (East and South), Lalpettai (South Arcot district), Bahur (partly in Pondicherry), Jayanamkondam-Cholapuram and Srimushnam (Trichy district), and Bhubangiri and Nanilam (Thanjayur district), Tamil Nadu.
- (ii) 68.48 million tonnes in Umarsar, Fulradam, Mudia, Pranpur (Kutch district), and Rajpardi-Vastam, Bharuch district, Gujarat.
- (iii) 104.35 million tonnes in Botia-Bharka and Giral areas in Barmer district, Rajasthan.

(c) Lignite deposits are exploited by Neyveli Lignite Corporation and respective State Governments.

[English]

Hydel Power Project

2896. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Haryana and Delhi are jointly executing a hydel project on the Parvati Canal in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the shares of power proposed to be given to each State particularly to Himachal Pradesh after the completion of the project;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to give power free of cost to Himachal Pradesh as royalty; and

(d) if so, the financial implications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) to (d). A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed on 20th October, 1992 between the States of Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Haryana and Delhi for carrying out joint investigation and execution of Stage-II (800 MW) and Stage-III (501 MW) including transmission system of Parvati Valley Hydro-electric Project and for taking up feasibility level investigations of Stage-I (750 MW). As per the Memorandum of Understanding, 12% energy generated from the project shall be given to Himachal Pradesh free of cost and the remaining 88% of the energy generated from the project shall be apportioned

amongst the parties in the ratio of their energy participation which is as follows :

Rajasthan	-	40%
Haryana	-	25%
Gujarat	-	15%
Delhi	-	15%
Himachal Pradesh	-	5%

The cost of generation of sale rate of generation shall increase to the extent of grant of free power to Himachal Pradesh.

[Translation]

Development of N.C.R.

2897. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of assistance proposed to be provided by the Union Government during the Eighth Five Year Plan for the development of the National Capital Region (NCR); and

(b) the other steps taken by the Union Government for expeditious development of the National Capital Region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) The Planning Commission has provided, to the National Capital Region Planning Board, an investment outlay of Rs. 200 crores which is required to be matched by the participating States. The investment programme drawn up by the Board envisages to utilise this Central assistance as 'Seed Capital' for raising the required level of resources for implementing the projects.

The Board has an approved investment plan for Rs. 1967 crores in the State Sector comprising land acquisition and its development in priority towns, development of 34 sub-regional centres within NCR and 5 counter magnet areas outside NCR which are to be jointly financed by the Board and States. In addition, the item such as the development of road network and transmission and distribution system for energy are the components in the State Sector and these would be funded exclusively by the States.

Besides these for the Central sector components such as improvement of railway network, expansion of road network and construction of expressways, telecommunication and energy, the 8th Plan investment programme envisages an expenditure of Rs. 1846 crores by the concerned Central Ministries.

(b) The National Capital Region is envisaged to be developed in accordance with the policies and programmes enunciated in the Regional Plan-2001 for NCR whereunder a multisectoral development strategy

has been adopted. This strategy includes, *inter alia*, the integrated development of new townships alongside the existing priority towns in the NCR to create rapid economic momentum and generate abundant employment opportunities so that they can deflect potential migrants from Delhi.

[English]

Allahabad-Haldia Waterway

2898. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether vessels have started operating in the Allahabad-Haldia stretch of National waterway on commercial basis;

(b) the number of vessels which have crossed the Navigational lock gate of the Farakka Barrage project during the last three years;

(c) whether the number of vessels so operated is inadequate; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir. The inland water transport service by means of vessel, operation on commercial basis is already existing in Haldia-Patna sector on the river Ganga.

(b) The number of mechanised commercial vessels that have crossed the Farakka navigational lock during the last three years is given below :

Year	No. of vessels
1992-93	62
1993-94	57
1994-95	30

(c) and (d). The Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Limited (CIWTC) who is the prime operator in the National Waterway No. 1, operates beyond Farakka also, depending on cargo offering. The number of vessels available for operation on commercial basis is adequate.

International Economic Order

2899. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether, while addressing a round table on sustainable production and consumption in Oslo, Norway, recently, Indian delegation has called for fundamental structural change in the International Economic Order to achieve sustainable development;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the other delegates thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : (a) to (c). At the last session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in 1994, Chairman of the Commission on Sustainable Development had requested India and Norway to initiate an international debate on production and consumption patterns. The starting point of any discussion on changing production and consumption patterns has to be the existing patterns of consumption and production. The change in production and consumption patterns would be easier to achieve, if the rich realised that it was in their interest to do so. The Indian delegation at the Oslo Round Table on Sustainable Production and Consumption, stressed that economic security alone can form the basis of ecological security. In this context, the Indian delegation called for a fundamental structural change in the international economic order.

The other delegates appreciated India's principled stand.

[Translation]

Tax Free Medicines

2900. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the medicines declared tax-free during 1993-94; and

(b) the reasons for declaring these medicines tax-free?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Medicament formulations listed at Sl. No. 1 of Central Excise Notification No. 29/88-CE dated 01-03-88 and life-saving medicaments listed in Central Excise Notification No. 30/88-CE dated 01-03-88 were exempt from excise duty and life saving drugs and medicines listed in Custom Notification No. 208/81-CUS. were exempt from customs duty during the year 1993-94.

(b) These medicines were declared tax free as they were either required under various National Health Programmes or they were recommended by Director General of Health Services, Deptt. of Health.