

(c) whether the said Delegation was also scheduled to visit Jammu and Ladakh, and

(d) if so, the dates on which it was to visit these places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a) and (b) A multi-party Parliamentary Delegation visited Kashmir Valley from 27th to 29th October, 1992. The delegation felt that efforts will be necessary to activate political elements and ensure people's participation in the administration and developmental activities in order to create an atmosphere conducive to holding of elections in Jammu and Kashmir

(c) and (d) The visit of this delegation to Jammu and Ladakh regions was also contemplated but the same could not materialise at that stage

[English]

Production of High Grade Coal

7244 SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any project for stepping up the production of high grade coal in the country to discontinue the import of coal,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the time by which the country is likely to become self-sufficient in meeting the requirement of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) (a) to (c) Import of coal is being resorted to by Steel Plants to meet the present gap between demand and indigenous availability of superior grade coking coals. The indigenous availability of higher grades of non-coking coals is adequate to meet the current demand in the country. The steps being taken to increase availability of good quality non-coking coal inter alia include -

- (i) Augmenting the capacity of coal handling and screening facilities to improve consistency of quality of des-patches,
- (ii) Reorganisation and development of some of the existing mines producing better

grades of coal,

- (iii) Opening of new mines,
- (iv) Beneficiation of coal for eliminating extraneous material to improve the overall quality

Steps being taken to augment domestic availability of coking coals are -

- (i) increasing the raw coking coal supply to the existing washeries by reorganising existing mines and development of new mines,
- (ii) increasing washery feed by restoration of low volatile coking coal sources which were de-linked in 1984-85 from washers on account of quality consideration and now found acceptable after testing,
- (iii) expediting commission of two new washeries one each at Madhuband and Kedia for increasing the existing washing capacity
- (iv) modification of the existing coking coal washers by implementation of the recommendations of the technical committee to improve the capacity utilisation as well as the quality of washed coking coal,
- (v) transporting more quantity of low ash coking coal available in Assam and Meghalaya to the Steel Plants

Some of the important coking coal projects identified for development during the 8th plan include Parej Opencast project, Topa (Reorganisation) Opencast project, Jharkhand Opencast project, Parej East Underground project, Kathara (Re-organisation) Opencast project etc.

With the increased availability of metallurgical grades of coking coals from indigenous sources the quantum of coking coal imports is expected to come down, details whereof cannot be ascertained now

Aids Control

7245 SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Indian doctors settled in America have set up a committee to help Indian Government to check the spread of AIDS in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government received any offer from the Doctors of Indian origin and settled in America,

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATGE) (a) to (c) The American Association of Physicians from India and the International Committee of Association of State and Territorial Public Health Laboratory Directors have expressed their desire to assist the national AIDS Control project in the area of Surveillance or HIV testing, Blood safety and control of sexually Transmitted Diseases

(d) The Government have assured full help and assistance to such efforts provided they are in harmony with the national Strategy in this regard

Arrest of Activists of Banned Organisations

7246. SHRI RAM NAIK
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN
SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR
SHRI LOKANATH
CHOUDHURY

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the number of persons arrested upto January 31, 1993 connected with five banned organisations in December, 1992, State wise and organisation-wise,

(b) the number of persons declared 'wanted', State-wise and organisation-wise,

(c) the number of offices sealed, State-wise and organisation-wise, and

(d) the details of security measures taken/proposed to be taken to safeguard the offices and property of the banned organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P M SAYEED) (a) and (c) A statement indicating the number of persons arrested connected with five banned organisations and number of premises declared unlawful State-wise and organisation-wise is enclosed.

(b) Central Government is not maintaining any data about the number of persons declared 'wanted', as law and order is a State subject. Moreover, there is no provision in the Unlawful Activity (Prevention) Act, 1967 for declaring any person as 'wanted'

(d) The security of offices and the property of the banned organisations is the concern of the respective State Governments/UT's Administrations where the offices are located