

(b) if so, the number of projects held up (State-wise) and the type of industries they related to; and

(c) the action Government propose to take for their speedy implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). Against applications for the grant of industrial licences, letters of intent valid for a period of one year are issued initially. On the entrepreneurs' fulfilling the conditions of letter of intent such as settlement of terms of foreign collaboration, and import of capital goods, if any, environmental and pollution clearance, wherever required, etc., the letter of intent is converted into industrial licence. The industrial licence is also valid for a period of two years within which the entrepreneur is expected to commence commercial production. The progress made by the entrepreneur is monitored by the Administrative Ministry concerned with the industry and on their recommendation extensions to the period of validity of letters of intent or industrial licences are granted depending on the progress made and on merits of each case. Detailed information on the progress of schemes from time to time is not centrally maintained. Where the progress made is found to be unsatisfactory, the letters of intent are allowed to lapse and the industries licences are revoked.

Request from Andhra Pradesh for development of coal resources

2226. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested his Ministry for development of coal resources in that State; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this direction and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). For the development of coal resources in Andhra

Pradesh during the 7th Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 580 crores have been allocated. A coal production target of 24 million tonnes to be achieved by 1989-90 has been set. With this in view, Government of India have sanctioned Bellampalli opencast project, Manuguru OCP-II, Godavari Khani No. 10-A Incline and Srirampur No. 3 and 3-A Inclines in Andhra Pradesh. Advance action for Manuguru OCP-III has also been sanctioned. A number of other projects are also being appraised by Government for development during the 7th Five Year Plan.

Induction of Foreign Experts in Drilling Operation at Bodra in 24-Parganas (West Bengal)

2227. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :
SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN :
SHRI R. P. DAS :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the induction of American experts by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in the drilling operation at Bodra in 24-Paraganas of West Bengal was avoidable and also resented by ONGC personnel of the project;

(b) whether the induction has created some problems in the project, if so, details thereof;

(c) how Government have solved that problem; and

(d) whether the induction has resulted in setback to the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The assistance of American experts was considered desirable to resolve the technical problems encountered in drilling. No resentment has been reported by ONGC.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.