

ments in the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) to (c). The Hon'ble Member's attention is invited to the reply given on 21st November, 1978 to Unstarred Question No. 276.

Increase in Production of Coal

3093. SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-SHEKARA MURTHY:

SHRI A. R. BADRINARAYAN:

SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Coal has proposed to increase the coal production during the current year in comparison to last year;

(b) what is the likely production of coal during 1979;

(c) what will be the demands of coal by each sector;

(d) to what extent the production of coal will be able to meet the demands during the current year; and

(e) what steps are being taken to overcome the coal shortage in the country at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) It is proposed to increase production in 1979-80 as compared to the production in 1978-79.

(b) The targetted production for 1979-80 is about 118 million tonnes.

(c) and (d). According to a recent assessment, the sector-wise demand of

coal during 1979-80 is estimated as detailed below:—

	(Figures in million tonnes)
Steel	26.30
Power	36.40
Railway	12.80
Cement	6.00
Fertilizer	2.40
Export	0.60
Soft coke and LTC	4.80
Textile	2.70
BRK & Other	23.50
Colliery consumption	3.40
	118.90

The targetted production of coal in 1979-80 with some draw down from the pit head stocks, would match the aforesaid level of demand.

(e) There is no shortage of coal at the pitheads. The pithead stock on 1st March, 1979 was about 12.9 million tonnes. This, along with the current level of production, is adequate to meet the requirements of consumers. Close coordination is being maintained with the railways for improvement in wagon supplies. To make up the shortfall in despatches by rail the movement of coal by road is allowed wherever necessary.

Abolition/Reduction in Licence fee for Radios and T.Vs.

3094. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

SHRI SUKHENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering certain proposals to abolish or reduce the presently charged

Licence fees for Radio and Television sets by the public; and

(b) the details of the proposals received and which are under consideration and when a final decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b). Several representation for the abolition/reduction/modification of the system of licence fees for radio and TV sets have been received from various quarters. The entire question is under examination. Considering the complex nature of the problem, it is difficult to indicate at this stage when a final decision is likely to be taken thereon.

Recovery of licence fee for T.V. and Radio Sets

3095. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for recovering licence fee in lump sum at one time on T.V. and Radio Sets based on its cost of production is under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, details thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b). The entire question of licence fee on T.V. and radio sets including the possibilities of levying a one-time licence fees is under examination. Proposals in this regard will be formulated in the light of this examination.

Adoption of Children Bill

3096. SHRI RUDOLPAH RODRIGUES: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed in the International Year of the Child to

bring forward the long pending Adoption of Children Bill; and

(b) whether Government have considered amendments and exclusions to meet religious objections from any quarter so that the Bill may go through this year in its amended form?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Increase in Cost of Kudremukh Iron Project

3097. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of Kudremukh Iron Project has increased enormously; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) and (b). The sanctioned cost of the Kudremukh Iron Ore Project is Rs. 647.33 crores. There has been no proposal so far to revise it upward.

Advise of Coal Experts for Increasing Coal Output

3098. SHRI PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have invited coal experts to advise regarding increasing coal output;

(b) if so, whether the team of experts visited the coalfields in Talcher (Orissa) under the C.C.L.; and

(c) whether the team has opined that more coal can be raised from the Dera and Nandira collieries if up-to-date methods are adopted?