

ference for States and Union Territories of the Southern Region was held at Cochin on 4th February, 1975. The consensus was that the initial priorities should be in respect of distribution of commodities of basic necessity, namely, foodgrains including coarse grains and pulses where necessary, sugar standard cloth, vanaspati including edible oils, cheap fuel (soft coke and kerosene) and salt in vulnerable areas like metropolitan and large urban areas, labour concentrations, in mining, industrial and plantation areas, district headquarters, hill areas and rural areas in districts which are chronically scarcity affected or deficit. The demand for commodities like pulses in the Eastern and South-Eastern Zones; coarse grains in the hill areas and in Maharashtra and Gujarat; mustard oil in West Bengal; and salt in the Eastern and North-Eastern Zones will have to be met specially. It was also recommended that effective measures should be taken to ensure equitable distribution of cement, paper and stationery for students, diesel oil for agricultural purposes, essential drugs, soap, matches, baby food, tyres and tubes, common footwear and soda ash.

**Exploitation of New Coal Mines in Districts Purulia and Bankura in West Bengal**

2191. SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether no new coal mines have been exploited during the current year;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the action taken up-to-date in exploiting the new coal mines in the Districts of Purulia and Bankura in West Bengal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY: (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House as and when received.

**Coal Production in Fifth Plan**

2192. SHRI TUNA ORAON: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Fifth Plan target of coal production is to the tune of 143 million tonnes; and

(b) if so, the expected achievement during the first year of the Fifth Plan ending in the next March?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY: (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Coal Programme, as included in the Draft Fifth Five Year Plan, envisages coal production of 135 million tonnes by 1978-79. The expected achievement during the first year of Fifth Plan is about 88 million tonnes day.

**पोंग बांध से पानी निकलना**

2193. श्री लालजी भाई : क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पोंग बांध की एक सुरंग के दरवाजे की टटी हुई सील में से दो-तीन माह तक बराबर बांध का पानी गिरता रहा किन्तु इसे ठीक नहीं किया गया ;

(ख) क्या इस प्रकार की दरारों से लगभग 6 हजार क्यूसेक पानी गिर रहा है और इस प्रकार पोंग बांध का काम करीब १० वर्ष पीछे रह गया है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

ऊर्जा मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री० सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद): (क) से (ग). पोंग बांध