

**R.N. Committee on Coal Production**

2091. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had fixed any deadline to implement the recommendations of the R.N. Committee set up to enquire into the matter of coal shortage and the over-reporting of coal production in B.C.C.L.,

(b) if so, the time by which the recommendations of the Committee were to be implemented and whether the recommendations had been implemented in time;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the action taken against various categories of officers with context of the recommendations of the Committee, as on June 30, 1998;

(e) whether the Committee had also made any adverse comments against the former Chairman and Managing Directors of B.C.C.L.; and

(f) if so, the details of the comments and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Coal had desired action on R.N. Mishra Committee Report to be completed by 15.6.94. In order to complete action, the concerned persons had to be issued chargesheets, departmental proceedings had to be initiated and finalised. The delay in finalisation of inquiry proceedings is due to procedural constraints.

(d) Action taken on various categories of officers with context of the recommendation of the Committee as on 30.6.98 is enclosed as Statement.

(e) and (f) The R.N. Mishra Committee had found that not only was the BCCL Management in the know of the goings on pertaining to stock shortages or was playing a collusive role but it was instigating over-reporting of production. Two of the four indicted CMDs who were still in service were served show cause notices on 20.5.94 and after considering their replies the Ministry of Coal decided to close the cases against them. They have now retired. The remaining two CMDs who had retired before Mishra Committee was set up could not be proceeded against because there is no provision in the conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules 1978 of CIL to initiate disciplinary proceedings against the retired employees. Initiating criminal proceedings against the retired CMDs, in absence of departmental action would not have been sustainable. Thus, a decision had been taken by the Ministry of Coal on 9.3.95 not to initiate action against the retired CMDs.

**Statement***Status of action taken on R. N. Mishra Committee Report on BCCL*

Details	Position on 30.06.98
No. of officers	220
No. of cases	260
CASES IN WHICH NO ACTION COULD BE TAKEN	
Expired	2
Retired	12
Dropped after issue of chargesheet	28
<b>Sub-Total(A)</b>	<b>42</b>
PUNISHMENT AWARDED AFTER ENQUIRY	
Removal from service	5
Demotion	19
Reduction to Lower stage	11
Withholding of promotion	3
Stoppage of increment	13
Warning	8
Caution	13
Censure	11
Forfeiture of Gratuity	3
<b>Sub-Total (B)</b>	<b>86</b>
Exonerated (C)	122
<b>Total cases finalised A+B+C</b>	<b>250</b>
CASES PENDING	
Enquiry completed & Pending for decision	8
Sub-judice	2
<b>TOTAL PENDING</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>260</b>

**Pilgrims to Vaishnodevi**

2092. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :  
SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pilgrims visited Vaishnodevi temple during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the total amount received by the temple as offerings during the above period, year-wise; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred on the facilities provided to the pilgrims and on the maintenance of temple?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) According to the information available from the State Government, total number of pilgrims who visited Vaishnodevi during the years 1995, 1996 and 1997 was as follows:-

Year	Tourist Arrivals
1995	40,32,127
1996	43,35,532
1997	44,34,233

(b) and (c) The temple offerings are collected by the Shrine Board which provide facilities to the pilgrims and maintain the temple. The details of income and expenditure of the Shrine Board are not available with the Ministry of Tourism.

[Translation]

#### Licences to Sugar Mills during Ninth Plan

2093. DR. RAM VILAS VEDANTI :  
SHRI ADITYANATH :  
SHIR CHINMAYANAND SWAMI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the targetted number of licences to be issued to cooperative sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh during Ninth Five Year Plan, Year-wise;

(b) the number of sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh which were issued licences during the Eighth Five Year Plan; Year-wise; and

(c) the number of licences proposed to be issued during the year 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) No targets are fixed for issue of licences. Accordingly no targets have been fixed for issue of licences to co-operative sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh. Sugar industry has also been exempt from licensing vide Press Note Number 12 dated 31.8.98.

(b) A year-wise break up of letters of intent issued for UP during the Eighth Five Year Plan is as follows:

Year	No. of Letters of Intent
1992-93	2
1993-94	31
1994-95	7
1995-96	9
1996-97	56

(c) During 1998-99 (from April to August 1998) 4 Letters of Intent were issued to set up sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh.

Since September 1998, the entrepreneurs are free to set up sugar units by filling Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandum.

[English]

#### Smuggling of Drugs

2094. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "China se Bharat men nashile padarthon ki taskari" appearing in the 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated September 30, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the names of the countries through which this smuggling is being done; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE)(SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There are no report on narcotic drugs sourced from China getting diverted to India via other countries. However, drug trafficking from Myanmar in small quantities for local consumption particularly in North Eastern States has come to the notice of the Government.

(d) A comprehensive bilateral agreement has been entered into by the Govt. of India with the Govt. of Myanmar for reducing demand and for preventing illicit traffic in narcotic drugs. Constant vigil is maintained by all the enforcement agencies empowered under the N.D.P.S. Act. A periodical review of such enforcement activities is undertaken by the Director General, Narcotics Control Bureau in meetings wherein representatives from all North Eastern States are included for exchange of information and intelligence. BSF and Coast Guards have been vested with powers under the Customs Act to interdict narcotic drugs.

#### Cash Crops

2095. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government proposed to formulate any scheme to encourage the growing of Cash Crops in various States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMKRISHNA HEGDE) : (a) and (b) Some of the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to encourage production of cash crops inter-alia include production and distribution of quality planting material,