

PANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Team had recommended endorsement of a capacity of 18,000 tonnes on the Registration Certificate to make the unit economically viable. The Government have already agreed to the endorsement of the capacity of 18,000 tonnes subject to the condition that the company would undertake an export obligation as per the current policy after the unit has run for 5 years. The export obligation has become necessary as the manufacture of Biscuit is reserved for small scale sector. The company as well as the Government of West Bengal have been informed suitably.

Construction of 24 Storeyed Building in Calcutta for Postal Department

1110. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Postal Department of his Ministry has planned to construct a 24-storeyed building in Calcutta's BBD area; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) A proposal to construct a multi-storeyed building in Calcutta's BBD area is under consideration.

(b) The details of the proposal are being worked out.

L.P.G. Connections in Bangalore

1111. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cooking gas connections (LPG) given so far in Bangalore city;

(b) the number of applications for gas connection still pending;

(c) whether poor and middle class people are finding it difficult to take gas connection in view of deposit of Rs. 500/- to be paid at the time of installation; and

(d) whether Government propose to reduce it to the old rate Rs. 250/-?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) and (b). The number of cooking gas connections released/pending in Bangalore city are as follows-

	Released	Pending
1. Indian oil Corporation as on Feb. 1, 1985.	97,300	700
2. Hindustan Petroleum Corpn. Ltd. as on March 18, 1985	69,500	...
3. Bharat Petroleum Corpn. Ltd. as on Feb. 28, 1985	14,000	...

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

Purchase of Advanced Weapons for Defence

1112. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the purchase of billions of dollars worth of advanced weapons for defence from Western countries, has slowed down due to spy scandal; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take immediate action to purchase advanced weapons for defence in the interest of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI. P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b). Negotiations for purchase of defence items from the Western countries are proceeding according to schedule. It will not be in the interest of national security to divulge details in this regard.

Licence for Manufacturing of Cracking Catalyst at Haldia

1113. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Union Government have received any proposal for granting licence for manufacturing of cracking catalyst at Haldia from Government of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the time by which Government propose to grant the licence for the same ?

THE MINISTER FOR CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEER-

ENDRA PATIL) : (a) No such proposal has been received from the Government of West Bengal. However, they have recommended the application of M/s. Hindustan Lever Limited for grant of an Industrial Licence for setting up of a plant for the manufacture of Cracking Catalyst at Haldia, West Bengal.

(b) The proposal has been turned down by the Government on the ground that adequate capacity in this line of manufacture has been approved in favour of M/s. Projects and Development India Limited, a public sector company and there is no scope for licensing further capacity.

Industrial growth during the Financial Year 1984-85

1114. **SHRI B.V. DESAI** : Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the overall industrial growth rate is expected to cross the 7.5 per cent level in the current financial year;

(b) if so, whether this optimism is based on the current trend in industrial growth in the selected sectors of industry as also the uptrend in the overall general index for industrial production;

(c) whether the performance of the infrastructure industries is considered excellent;

(d) whether there are some seasonal factors which have an adverse impact on the industrial growth;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) to what extent Government are considering to improve the industrial growth during the next financial year also ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b), on the basis of Index of Industrial Production (provisional) from central Statistical organisation, industrial production recorded a growth rate of 6.6 per cent during April-November, 1984 over April-November, 1983. According to Economic Survey, 1984-85 the growth rate for the year as a whole is likely to be about 7 per cent.

(c) The index of production of six infrastructure industries, namely, electricity, coal saleable steel, petroleum refinery products, crude petroleum and cement registered a growth of 9.8 per cent during April-February, 1984-85 over the corresponding period a year ago.

(d) and (e). Various seasonal factors do have an impact on industrial production. The impact, however varies from industry to industry.

(f) The Approach Paper to the Seventh Plan (1985-90) envisages an average annual growth rate of 7 per cent during the plan period.

Establishment of Gas-based Fertilizer Plants during Seventh Plan period

1115. **SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI** :

Will the Minister of **CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS** be pleased to state :

(a) the number of gas-based fertilizer plants approved for the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) the number out of them established, location thereof and the production capacity of each plant;

(c) whether there is any proposal to establish gas-based fertilizer plant during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b). Apart from four fertilizer plants, two each at Thal Vaishet in Maharashtra and Hazira in Gujarat, six other gas-based fertilizer plants are proposed to be set up in a phased manner. While mechanical completion of the two plants located at Thal-Vaishet has been achieved, mechanical completion of the plants at Hazira is expected to be achieved shortly. Action has also been initiated for setting up 3 of the other 6 gas-based fertilizer plants. Work in respect of remaining 3 gas-based fertilizer plants will also be taken up in a phased manner. Details regarding location, production capacity and the phasing of these plants are given in the attached statement.