

for setting up an Innovation Centre at the Technopark, Thiruvananthapuram, an Electronics Technology Park set up by the State Government of Kerala, has been received from the State Government. Preliminary examination of the proposal has been done in consultation with the representatives of the State Government.

Liquefied Natural Gas

*290. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any long-term policy for liquefied natural gas (LNG);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the rule envisaged for the private Companies keen to enter the LNG sector; and

(e) the estimated investment involved in a typical LNG chain stretching from the supplier to the ultimate consumer for a five Million tonnes per annum plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c). The Government wish to encourage the import of LNG and its utilisation for power generation etc. wherever techno-economically feasible.

(d) Private companies may participate in any part of the LNG chain.

(e) Around USD 10 billion.

Setting up of F.P.I. with Japan

*291. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Food Processing Units in the country in collaboration with Japan;

(b) if so, the number of Food Processing Units proposed to be set up made the agreement made with Japan. State-wise, location-wise; and

(c) if so, the details therefor. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (c). This Ministry does not set up food processing units directly. However, the Government is encouraging and permitting setting up of industries with foreign technical/financial/marketing collaborations including collaborations with the companies in Japan. A list of foreign technical/financial collaboration cases approved by the Government from August, 1991 to October, 1996 for food processing industry between Indian and Japanese companies is as given in the Statement attached.

STATEMENT

List of Foreign Technical/Financial Collaboration cases approved in various sectors of Food Processing August, 1991 to October, 1996

S.No.	Name of the Indian Company	Name of the foreign collaborator	Location	Item of manufacture	Foreign Investment (Rs. lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Innovative Marine Foods Ltd., Cochin	Mitsubishi Corporation, Tokyo, Japan	Kerala	Frozen Marine Products	568
2.	Oriental High Seas Fisheries Ltd., Visakhapatnam, A.P.	Tokyo Korinan Co.	Andhra Pradesh	Deep Sea Fishing.	90
3.	V. Surendra Kumar, Hyderabad	Kyoej Trading Co. Japan	Not available.	-do-	40
4.	Southern Sea Foods Ltd., Madras.	Monarch Trading Co. Japan.	Tamil Nadu	Prawns & Shrimps Processed Food.	110
5.	Minota Acqua Foods Ltd.	Showa Trading Co. Japan.	Andhra Pradesh	Food Processing.	44
6.	Indo-Nissin Foods Ltd., Bangalore.	Nissin Food Products Japan	Karnataka	Food Processing.	900
7.	Cephram Milk Specialities Ltd., New Delhi.	Sophia Bussan Inc. Japan.	Punjab	Milk Product.	198

1	2	3	4	5	6
8	Naveen Watianable Aqnotech.	Kumamoto Shittake Do Ltd. Japan	Tamil Nadu	Mushroom	63
9	Unified Agro Industries Ltd. New Delhi.	Nissho Iwai Corporation Japan	Not Available.	Rice	22
10	Snowman Frozen Foods Ltd	Mitsubishi Corporation Japan	Kerala	Frozen Fish	537

[Translation]

LPG as Automobile Fuel

*292. SHRIMATI BHAVNA B. N. DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA :
SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a committee to identify the likelihood use of LPG as automobile fuel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations of the committee; and

(e) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Govt. have set up two committees to examine the feasibility of using LPG as automotive fuel in the country. The first Committee will study various aspects relating to legal issues, infrastructure, logistics and retail distribution of LPG as auto fuel. The second Committee will study the aspects relating to technology, equipment design, retrofitting/equipment standardisation, fuel specification, etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The committees are at the stage of finalising their reports, which are expected to be submitted to Government soon.

[English]

Gas Based Power Station

*293. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the daily requirement of gas for gas based power stations in the country;

(b) whether the gas is being supplied to these power stations as per their requirements;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to meet their requirements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) 19.7 MMSCMD has been allocated to gas based power project as against which the current supply is 17.9 MMSCMD.

(c) Short supplies were due both to less offtake by some of the plants and lower availability of gas from the Western offshore fields.

(d) Steps taken to increase the availability of gas include development of new fields, additional development of existing fields etc.

Import of Naptha

*294. DR T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Power Ministry is proposing to amend the Exim policy to allow naptha imports for power generation under Open General License;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the issue includes proposals as proposed by Enron;

(d) whether some implications like high cost of imports, logistical problem, foreign exchange outflow etc. have been pointed out in the import of naptha;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether a number of proposals are pending with the Power Ministry based on naptha;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (h). Government is considering the issue of assured fuel supply for liquid