

Production of fertilizer in F.C.I. at Sindri

3332. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) is it true that 183-crore F.C.I. Fertilizer Unit in Sindri has not produced a grain of Fertilizer for the last five months due to serious "fitness problem";

(b) what are the details of such problems, if any; and

(c) what step taken to keep the modern machinery fully fit despite not working at present?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b). No, Sir. It is not correct that the Rs. 183 crore Sindri Modernisation plant has not produced fertilizers for the last five months due to any 'fitness problem'. The plant is shut down from the evening of 16.1.80 due to non-availability of Fuel Oil/LSHS feed-stock on account of Assam situation.

(c) During the shut down period, proper maintenance and modification jobs, where necessary, are being carried out to keep the plant and machineries in good condition.

Completion of Western Kosi Canal in Bihar

3333. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest position with regard to the completion of the Western Kosi canal in Madhubani district of Bihar and what are the hurdles in the way; and

(b) what is the exact time schedule for giving water for irrigation from the canal to the peasants on the eastern side of river Kamala and on the Western side respectively?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDAY): (a) as intimated by the State Government, out of a total length of 76 km. of the main Western Kosi Canal in India, at present, the excavation work is being done in the reach upto km. 40 i.e. upto East of River Kamala. The progress upto March, 1980 in excavation is 22.8 per cent and in lining 34 per cent. Work on only 9 structures out of 356 has been taken up so far. The State Government has been advised to make all out efforts to complete the project by 1987 June at the latest.

The delay in execution of the project is due to insufficient financial outlays, difficulties being faced in acquiring the land, shortage of certain construction materials as well as petrol, oil and lubricants required, for transportation of construction material, operation of pumping sets, etc.

(b) This will have now to be fixed by the State Government in view the overall target of completion of the Project by June, 1987.

Merger of Indo-Swiss Synthetic Gem Manufacturing Company

3334. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI P. M. SAYEED:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-Swiss Synthetic Gem Manufacturing Company Limited, now on the verge of closure, is proposed to be rehabilitated through a scheme of merger with Introc Pharmaceuticals Limited;

(b) whether the amalgamating company has made an application to Government under Sub-section (2) of Section 23 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act;

(c) if so, what are the main points of the merger scheme; and

(d) the reaction of Government and when the final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) No such proposal is pending with this Department. However, M/s. Indo-Swiss Synthetic Gem Manufacturing Company Limited has submitted an application to the Specified Authority under section 72-A of the Income Tax Act, for claiming tax relief for revival of M/s. Introc Pharmaceuticals Limited.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Does not arise.

Orissa's Power Projects and Rural Electrification Schemes

3335. **SHRI RASABEHARI BEHERA:** Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) how many power projects proposals and rural electrification proposals of the Government of Orissa are awaiting clearance from the Union Government; and

(b) is there any special weightage in rural electrification programme for backward areas like Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) One Multi-purpose project and four hydro-Electric schemes, (i) Bhimkund Multi-purpose project, (ii) Hirakud St. III, (iii) Balimela St. II, (iv) Upper Kolab Extn. and (v) Rengali Extension, submitted by Government of Orissa are currently under examination in the Central Electricity Authority/Central Water Commission. Also, 42 rural Electrification schemes involving a loan outlay of Rs. 14.94 crores submitted by the Orissa State Electricity Board were awaiting financial sanction by the Rural Electrification Corporation as on 31.5.1980. Of these,

12 schemes for a loan outlay of Rs. 4.39 crores were at various stages of examination in the Corporation and the remaining 30 schemes involving a loan outlay of Rs. 10.55 crores had, after appraisal, been referred back to the Orissa State Electricity Board and were pending with them for revision/clarification.

(b) The Corporation has been offering concessional terms in regard to rates of interest and period of repayments and also liberalised norms in regard to viability criteria in backward areas including those in Orissa. Orissa, whose level of village electrification is less than 50 per cent, is also eligible to draw special funds for rural electrification under the Revised Minimum Needs Programme (RMNP) on liberalised terms and conditions.

Setting up of State Electricity Board in Tripura

3336. **SHRI AJOY BISWAS:** Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Tripura have submitted any proposal to the Central Government for setting up of State Electricity Board in Tripura;

(b) if so, whether Government have approved the proposal; and

(c) if not, the reason thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The Government of Tripura submitted a proposal to the Ministry of Energy in January, 1979 for issue of a notification by the Government of India under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, to enable the State Government to constitute a State Electricity Board in Tripura.

(b) The Government of India did not approve the proposal.

(c) The main reason for not approving the proposal of Tripura Govern-