

Setting up of a power plant in Kutch

3366. SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to set up a power plant based on lignite resources in Kutch;

(b) what will be its generating capacity;

(c) when the proposed plant is likely to start generating power, and when the work of setting up the plant will be completed; and

(d) whether the components of the plant are likely to be imported; if so, foreign exchange involved in it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The station will have a generating capacity of 120 MW with two units of 60 MW each.

(c) Both the units are expected to be commissioned in 1985-86.

(d) The scheme has been cleared for implementation on the basis that the supply of plant and equipment will be from indigenous sources.

Self-Sufficiency in Fertilizer

@3367. SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state whether any target has been fixed when the country will be self sufficient in fertilizer production?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): No, Sir. However, continuous efforts are being made to narrow down the gap between demand and domestic production of fertilizers by optimising the production in the existing units and by setting up substantial additional capacity for production of fertilizers.

Global Tenders issued for supply of Power Equipment

3368. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) how many global tenders were issued by various projects in India for supply of power equipment during 1978, 1979 and 1980;

(b) whether National Thermal Power Corporation, a public sector undertaking decided in favour of Italian group to supply power equipment for the Ramgundam Super Thermal Project;

(c) whether it is a fact that during the last five years several complaints have been received against the BHEL for inferior quality, delay in supply and defective material in the power equipment supplied by them; and

(d) whether the department of Heavy Industry is thinking of blocking the issue of Global Tenders by Indian Projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The import policy of the Government of India allws for invitation of global tenders for import of power generating equipment. The recommendations made on the basis of these global tenders are to be considered by an Empowered Committee chaired by the Secretary,

Department of Heavy Industry which examines the recommendations before giving final clearance. Information regarding the number of global tenders floated during 1978, 1979 and 1980 is being obtained from the project authorities.

(b) Yes Sir. On the basis of global tendering required under the provisions of the IDA Credit being received for the project.

(c) During the last five years, indigenous equipment manufactured by major plant manufacturers like Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., ACC-Vickers-Babcock and Instrumentation Ltd., Kota, have been commissioned in the country. The first generation equipment had many teething problems. These have been overcome in most of the stations. The second generation equipment manufactured by M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. and Instrumentation Ltd., Kota, are performing much better and there are fewer complaints.

(d) Government is examining a proposal to review the current policy on import of equipment for the generation, transmission and distribution of power.

Industrial uses of rectified spirit

3369. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA-DASAN NADAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the industrial uses of rectified spirit in India at present;

(b) are Government aware of the fact that one of the main uses of rectified spirit in Kerala obtained from other States is in the manufac-

ture of potable alcohols such as Arrack, country liquors and foreign liquors; and

(c) what are the steps taken by the Government of India to ensure that poisonous ingredients are permitted in the manufacture of potable alcohols in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a). At present the main industries using rectified spirit in India include synthetic rubber, polyethylene, styrene, P.V.C., acetic acid, acetic anhydride Butanol, ethyl acetate and 2-ethyl hexanol.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) State Governments exercise strict supervision under their respective Excise Laws on the manufacture of potable liquors to ensure that poisonous ingredients are not mixed in potable liquors.

Yearly Production of Chemicals

3370. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHA-DASAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the total production of the following in India in each of the years 1974 to 1980:—

(i) Chloral Hydrate, (ii) Barbiturates, (iii) Organophosphorous chemicals, (iv) Benzene Hexachloride, (v) Potassium cyanide, and (vi) Nicotinic sulphate; and

(b) are Government aware that Chloral hydrate is indiscriminately used by Abkari contractors in some States in India like Kerala?