

Lignite Corporation.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. They wanted to have the number of qualifying years (10 years) to be reduced for the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates, which was not agreed to as there is no such relaxation even in the normal case of promotion.

They were advised that if there are actual vacancies and no person is available who has completed 10 years of service, the vacancies are filled up with reference to the previous qualifying years of service prescribed for the respective post (prior to the Time Bound Promotion Scheme) and the roaster points are strictly observed.

(d) The promotion under the Time Bound Promotion Scheme are not against the vacancies. However, against the actual number of vacancies that have arisen during the period from January '79 to March '80 (about 125) only 27 Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employees would have normally got promoted according to the 40 point roaster. But, after the Time Bound Promotion Scheme, about 77 Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employees have had the benefit of promotion.

Setting up of Soda Ash Factory at Ongole, Andhra Pradesh

5918. SHRI PASALA PENCHALALAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for setting up of Soda Ash Factory at Ongole in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what is the estimated cost and capacity of the industry; and

(c) whether it will be with foreign collaboration; if so, the quantum of foreign exchange involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Production of Acids

5919. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total yearly production each of (1) sulphuric acid (2) hydrochloric acid (3) nitric acid (4) formic acid (5) acetic acid (6) ascorbic acid (7) tartaric acid in each of the years 1976—80; and

(b) what are the units which produce each of the above acids in India?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) The total yearly production in the organised sector of the chemicals namely; Sulphuric Acid, Hydrochloric Acid, Nitric Acid, Acetic Acid and Ascorbic Acid during the years 1976 to 1980 has been as under:—

Sl. No.	Item	Production (in tonnes)				
		1976	1977	1978	1979	1980 (Jan. to June.)
1	Sulphuric Acid.	1660000	2020000	2110000	2060000	1200000
2	Hydrochloric Acid.	230000	160000	190000	180000	110000
3	Nitric Acid	550000	490000	540000	600000	310000
4	Acetic Acid	24983	23978	30978	32077	14860 (provisional)
5	Ascorbic Acid	408.55	569.45	685.82	797.87	226.68 (Jan. to April, 80)