

Refineries, Gauhati-Siliguri pipeline and other petroleum establishments as a result of Assam Agitation.

(ii) *Bongaigaon Refineries and Petrochemicals Ltd*: No appreciable damage has been incurred in the Bongaigaon Refinery in Assam. However, idle corrosion would have occurred due to non-usage of the system. To quantify this is not possible.

(iii) *Oil & Natural Gas Commission*: No ONGC pipeline or oil field installation has been damaged as a result of the agitation in Assam. However, due to prolonged closure of wells, some of the wells earlier flowing with high percentage of water might have ceased, tubings of some of the wells might have got choked as a result of wax deposition and these wells may not flow of their own on re-opening. Actual number of such affected wells can only be known when the situation returns to normalcy and wells are opened to measure flow characteristics. Due to this non-uniform drainage of reservoirs is likely to take place which may affect the ultimate recovery of oil.

(iv) *Assam Oil Company*: An exact assessment of damage to the refinery resulting from thermal shocks suffered during unplanned shut-downs and oil installations is not feasible in view of inherent constraints in undertaking an exercise in this regard.

(v) *Oil India Limited*: An adequate idea of the extent of the quantum and value of damage caused to reservoirs and flowing wells can only be made after the fields are back on the rated production. However, a suspected bomb-blast on the early hours of 13th February, 1981 resulted in rupture of 3 metres of pipeline in the Nowgong district. The crude flow through the pipeline was resumed in just about 12 hours. The security measures have been further tightened.

#### Industries in Punjab Affected by Acute Power Shortage

1015. SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that industries in Punjab have been hard hit by the acute power shortage;

(b) whether the recent rains have resulted in the rise of water-level in the Bhakra Gobind-Sagar Dam; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to ensure regular supply to the Industries in Punjab and prevent their closure or shortfall in the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN) (a): There is shortage of power in Punjab which have affected industries to some extent. However, supply of power to the essential industries like sugar mills, vanaspati mills, distilleries & breweries, milk plants and milk processing plants has been given without any restriction. Supply of power to the continuous process industries has also been given as per their requirements so as to avoid any damage to the raw material under process and the equipment installed by the industrial units. The power supply to the general industries has also been in a manner that least one shift can be operated with the prevailing power cuts/restrictions. Efforts have always been made to give more than 8 hours supply.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Steps taken to increase the availability of power in the state include:

(i) Efforts are being made to increase generation from Bhatinda thermal power station;

(ii) Expedite the commissioning of new generating capacity.

#### Scarcity of Life Saving drugs

1016. SHRI MANMOHAN TUDU;  
SHRI R. L. BHATIA;  
SHRI DHARAMBIR SINHA;  
SHRI RAMA CHANDRA RATH;  
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM,  
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be  
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a severe scarcity of life-saving drugs in the country;

(b) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to increase the production of such drugs; and

(c) the detail programme of Government to keep sufficient stock of such drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) No, Sir. Shortages of some specific brands have been reported periodically from different places. In several of these cases, however, a number of equivalent brands are reportedly available.

(b) In specific cases of constraints of production brought to its notice, Government takes remedial measures to the extent possible. Government has also revised the prices of some life-saving bulk drugs and formulations so that their production can increase.

Applications for grant of industrial licenses/letters of intent/Carry-On-Business license are also cleared on expeditious basis e. g. this year 55 Industrial Licenses, 69 letters of intent and 3 COB licenses have been issued.

(c) Government arranges need imports of canalised bulk drugs to supplement indigenous production.

#### Regularisation of employees in Dandakaranya Project

1017. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state total number of such ad hoc employees in service now in Dandakaranya Project (i) for 1 day to 1 year (2) one to two years (3) three to four years (4) five to seven years (5) more than seven years and why their appointments are not being regularised from the date of their appointment when they are otherwise temporary Government Servants and are governed by CCS (TS) Rules, 1965?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY & REHABILITATION (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD):  
120 as under:

- (1) 74
- (2) 26
- (3) 8
- (4) Nil
- (5) 2

Except in case of 60 direct recruits, all others are holding regular posts in lower grades.

#### Spot Purchase of crude oil

1018. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India will resort to spot purchase of crude oil pending finalisation of contract with oil producing countries;:

(b) if so, whether the spot price of crude oil was lower in January 1981; and

(c) if so, how much was purchased on the spot by India during January 1981?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) We go in for

spot purchases of crude oil only to cover temporary short falls in availability.

(b) Some market journals have reported a weakening of spot prices of crude oil during January, 1981.

(c) We have purchased some crude oil but it would not be in the public interest divulge full details.

#### Average daily Power Generation capacity of D.V.C.

1019. SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what was the average daily power production capacity of DVC of the last year;

(b) what was the daily average power generated in the DVC last year;

(c) what was the daily average quota for West Bengal State Electricity Board last year from the DVC; and

(d) what was the daily average supply of electricity to the WBSEB by the DVC last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The installed capacity in the Damodar Valley Corporation during 1979-80 was 1361.5 MW consisting of 1257.5 MW of thermal capacity and 104 MW of hydel capacity.

(b) The daily average power production from April, 1979 to March, 1980 was 12.62 Mkwth.

(c) The maximum contractual obligation of the DVC with the West Bengal State Electricity Board is 87 NVA.

(d) The daily average supply of power to WBSEB by DVC from April, 1979 to March, 1980 was 1.04 Mkwth.

#### Expansion programme of Madras Fertilizers

1020. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as reported in the 'Economic Times' dated January 1, 1981, the Rs. 300 crore expansion programme of Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL) entered into a phase of jeopardy, owing to the virtual veto exercised by the US-based oil company, a minority shareholder in the MFL;