

(b) if so, whether France has agreed to make a compromise offer for appropriate credit facilities;

(c) whether the two countries have agreed to constitute a high power group for consultation on all matters in regard to oil; and

(d) if so, to what extent this will be helpful to Indian petroleum?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a), (c) and (d). During the recent visit of Prime Minister of India to France a Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 13-11-81 the establishment of a High Level Indo-French Group on Energy. The Group would review the progress in cooperation in the fields of energy including *inter alia* hydrocarbons with a view to attaining the objectives of inter-governmental agreements.

An IFP Team from France visited India in October, 1981 and a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between IFP and Engineers India Limited on 31st October, 1981. Specific subjects and areas for possible co-operation between Indian Public Sector Organisations and IFP would be identified.

As per the Memorandum of Understanding the future interest could be in the following:

—Exchange of personnel in Research and Development between IFP and its associates and Indian Organisations.

—Improvement of equipment and capabilities in Indian Research and Investigative Organisations through improved equipment and personnel abilities.

—Identification of joint research programmes.

—Provision of services and equipment in all oil and petrochemical activities.

—Cooperation in third countries' projects.

(b) No, Sir.

त्रिवेन्द्रम में स्मृति टिकट का विरोध स्वरूप जलाया जाना

3930. श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने स्वर्गीय श्री संजय गांधी की स्मृति में, एक स्मृति डाक टिकट जारी की है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या त्रिवेन्द्रम में इसके विरोध में इन टिकटों को जलाया गया है ;

(ग) इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ; और

(घ) इस सम्बन्ध में पूर्ण व्यौर क्या है ?

संचार मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री विजय एन. पाटिल) : (क) जी हां। स्वर्गीय श्री संजय गांधी पर एक स्मारक डाक टिकट 23-6-81 को जारी किया गया था।

(ख) डाक टिकट जारी करने की तारीख को कुछ नवयुवकों ने 6 डाक टिकटों को त्रिवेन्द्रम प्रधाम डाकघर के सामने जलाया था।

(ग) और (घ). वहां पुलिस को बुलाया गया, तथा वदमाशों को पुलिस वाहन में वहां से दूर ले जाया गया।

Thermal Power Station at Maithon

3931. SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some top engineers of DVC and Central Electricity Authority have joined