

ment is concerned, it has not been considered so far.

[*Eng'ish*]

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Sir, in the statement laid on the Table the second digital electronic factory to be set-up in Bangalore does not find a place. May I know whether Government has taken decision in the matter or will it meet the same fate as the first Digital electronic factory which was decided to be set-up in Bangalore but was later shifted to U.P. ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, the second digital electronic factory does not find a place because we have not yet entered into agreement with respect to that factory. The matter is under consideration.

New Anti-T. B. Drug

*308. **SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :**
SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 19 October, 1985 under the heading "Vital TB drug developed in India" and

(b) if so, how far it has been proved successful in eradicating TB ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The drug referred to in the press report is Rifampicin which is already being used in the country for the treatment of T. B.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the name of the companies which are manufacturing this drug in India as well as abroad and whether the Government is aware of the importance of this drug.

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : Sir, in India, we have given licence to H.A.L. for manufacture of 15.5 tonnes, M/s Themis Pharmaceuticals for the manu-

facture of 1 tonne, M/s. Hindustan Ciba Geigy for the manufacture of 12 tonnes, M/s. Cadila Labs. for 10 tonnes, M/s. Curewel (I) Ltd. for 10 tonnes and M/s. Alembic Chemicals for the manufacture of 20 tonnes. There are four countries which are specialising in this. They are : Italy, Pharmachim, Sophia, Bulgaria, Chong Kum Dang Corporation, South Korea and Ciech Polfa, Poland. These are the main countries which are manufacturing this drug.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : What steps are taken by the Government to propagate extensively this drug ?

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : Sir, it has been recently reported as also in the newspapers about this drug. M/s. Themis Pharmaceuticals in India have been able to manufacture this drug. But they are not yet a commercial producer. The commercial production has not started. This is the usual yardstick. Once they start manufacture, then they come to us for price fixation and we can give as much help as possible.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the hon. Minister kindly let us know the total number of deaths because of TB ?

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : I don't have the figures for this at the moment.

Setting up of Thermal Power Station in Kanya Kumari, Tamil Nadu

*311. **SHRI N. DENNIS :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to open a Thermal Power Station in Kanya Kumari District of Tamil Nadu :

(b) if so, whether any survey is being undertaken in this connection ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) It is not proposed to set up a thermal power station in the Central Sector in Kanya Kumari district.