

- (a) Establishment of growth centres
- (b) Identification of backward districts
- (c) Revision of existing Central Incentive Scheme

Government has not taken a final view on the Committee's recommendations. In the meantime it has been decided to set up 100 new growth centres over a period of five years all over the country.

### Stagnation in Domestic Crude Production

\*94 DR B L SHAILESH  
SHRI SRI HARI RAO

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether the country is slipping on the oil front with domestic crude production remaining stagnant and the dependence on imports increasing,

(b) the likely shortfall in crude oil production in the terminal year of the Seventh Five Year Plan and the anticipated gap between demand and supply,

(c) its impact on the rising oil import bill

(d) whether the causes for the widening gap have been analysed and identified, and

(e) if so, the steps being taken to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) (a) Production of crude oil has not been stagnant. Domestic crude production during the 7th Plan period will be considerably higher than during the 6th Plan period.

(b) and (c) The target of 34.53 million tonnes of crude oil production in the terminal year of the 7th Plan is expected to be met. There would, however, be a gap of about 22.11 million tonnes between the production and demand of crude oil. This will necessitate increased imports.

(d) The gap between demand and production of crude oil is due to the fact that consumption of petroleum products is growing at a rate faster than the rate of increase of domestic production.

(e) Besides efforts towards demand management and the measures taken for conservation of petroleum products, the following steps have been taken to increase the production of crude oil,

- Intensification of exploration, which may eventually lead to enhanced production
- Intensification of work over operations
- Use of enhanced oil recovery techniques
- Induction of advanced technology

### Proposals for Power Projects in West Bengal

\*95 SHRI ANIL BASU Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state

(a) the number of proposals for setting up of power projects (Hydel or Thermal) received from West Bengal under consideration of Union Government and

(b) the present position of these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

**DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI):**

(a) and (b). The proposal of West Bengal to set up Unit 7 (110 MW) of the Durgapur Power Station of Durgapur Projects Ltd. is under techno-economic appraisal in the Central Electricity Authority. Environmental clearance for the project and compliance with the provisions of Section 29 of the Electricity (Supply) Act have not yet been tied up.

The Bakreshwar thermal project (3x210 MW) has been sanctioned in principle by the Planning Commission subject to adequate financial provision, and clearance from the Forest Department for ash disposal area.

The Murshidabad and North Bengal thermal projects are not being processed in the Central Electricity Authority in the absence of requisite coal linkage for the Murshidabad project and lack of proper site investigation details and feasibility of coal supply in the case of the North Bengal project.

### **Liberalisation of Industrial Licensing System**

\*96. SHRI S.M.GURADDI:  
SHRI S.B.SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

◆ (a) whether a new package of measures for liberalising the industrial licensing system for backward areas further in order to promote dispersal of industries for balanced regional growth has been announced by Government;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether any other facilities are proposed to be provided for 100 per cent growth centres; and

(d) the extent to which it will give boost to the setting up of industries in backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. A new scheme of liberalisation of industrial system has been announced to promote further the development of backward areas.

Projects involving investment in fixed assets of more than Rs. 50 crores of Non-MRTP and non-FERA companies will require no licence if located in backward areas.

It is proposed to establish growth centres with infrastructural facilities such as power, water supply, telecommunication and banking facilities.

It is hoped that this scheme will catalyse industrial growth in the backward areas, as, at present, infrastructural inadequacies are one of the major constraints to development.

The approach intended is to locate the growth centres within a reasonable proximity of district headquarters tehsil headquarters in backward areas where, a better potential for attracting industries exists. Thus the impact of this approach is expected to be significant.

### **Nicotin and Tar Value of Indian Cigarettes**

\*97. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a per United Nations and other sources, nicotin and tar value of Indian cigarettes, including foreign brands made in India, is very high as compared to cigarettes made in the western countries; and

(b) if so, what corrective steps have