

H.B.J. Gas Pipe-Line

1071. SHRI K.V. THANGKABALU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the HBJ gas is going waste due to its non-utilisation by the fertilizer companies;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the particulars of the fertilizer companies responsible for this loss; and

(c) the total loss accumulated so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) No, Sir. Since gas passing through the HBJ pipeline is non-associated and which can be produced as and when required, there is no wastage due to non-utilisation by fertilizer companies on the HBJ line.

(b) and (c). Non-utilisation of gas leads to non-realisation of fixed costs and return on capital investment made by ONGC and GAIL for production and transportation of gas. The estimated loss of revenue to GAIL and ONGC on this account as also the notional value of gas not utilised is Rs. 37 lakhs per day per fertiliser plant. The three companies, which are implementing the gas-based fertiliser projects at Gadepan, Babrala and Shahjahanpur are M/s. Chambal Fertilisers & Chemicals Limited, M/s. Tata Chemicals Limited and M/s. Bindal Agro Chem Limited, respectively. The delay in implementation was mainly due to non-acceptance of original location from environmental angle in the case of Gadepan and the promoters' desire to change the product pattern in the case of the Babrala project. In the case of Shahjahanpur, a new promoter had to be selected in July, 1989, when the earlier promoter did not take interest in implementing the project.

Industrial Production

1072. SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRIYAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial production has declined in the first three months of 1991-92;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps contemplated by the Government to increase industrial production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). According to the Index of Industrial Production compiled by the Central Statistical Organisation, the rate of growth was (-) 1.5% during April-June, 1991. However, the index of Industrial Production for July, 1991 showed an increase of 0.6% over July, 1990.

The decline in the rate of growth during April-June, 1991 was due to several factors. In some sectors, this was due to a shortage of raw materials, particularly imported raw materials, because of foreign exchange constraints. In some other sectors, the fall in growth rates may be attributed to the plateauing of demand after extremely high growth rates in previous years. The imposition of some specific import restrictions due to balance of payments considerations contributed to a slow down in the growth in some sectors. Some other sectors were affected by infrastructural constraints such as power and coal shortages in some areas and industrial relations problems in some sectors.

Government has recently brought out a statement on industrial Policy, which was tabled in the Lok Sabha on 24th July, 1991. The major objectives of the new policy package will be to build on the gains already

made, correct the distortions or weaknesses that may have crept in, maintain a sustained growth in productivity and gainful employment and attain international competitiveness. All sectors of industries whether small, medium, or large belonging to the public, private or cooperative sector will be encouraged to grow and improve on their past performance.

[*Translation*]

**Abolition of Contract System in
B.H.E.L.**

1073. SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to abolish contract system in the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (d). BHEL enters into contract with various agencies for the procurement of raw materials/components, supply of equipment, erection and commissioning service. Besides, certain jobs which are temporary or of intermittent nature are awarded on works contract basis. As BHEL has to necessarily enter into such contracts for carrying out its operations, there is no proposal to abolish these systems.

[*English*]

**Projects of Kerala for Solving drinking
Water problem**

1074. SHRI THAYILJOHN ANJALOSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects submitted by Government of Kerala to the Union Government for approval during 1990-91 and 1991-92 to solve, its drinking water problem;

(b) the number of projects out of them which have been approved and the number of the projects still pending; and

(c) the amount of central grants provided therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) The Government of Kerala submitted six projects during 1990-91 and twelve projects during 1991-92 to the Government of India for approval to solve its drinking water problem.

(b) The projects submitted during 1990-91 had been approved and the projects submitted during 1991-92 are pending sanction.

(c) The central assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) is given to the States as per their annual allocation for schemes cleared from time to time. It is not given on project wise basis. The amounts of central grant allocated and released under ARWSP during 1990-91 & 1991-92 for these projects are as under:-