

Supply of Power to Fertilizer Plants

2270. SHRI ANANDI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the Government's action plans to ensure the requirement of power supply to the fertilizer plants in the country; and

(b) what alternative source of power is being found/proposed to be found and the details of projects being implemented to provide natural gas as feed stock for the Fertilizer plant in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b). It has been decided, in principle, to supply power to the central projects, including fertilizers, from out of the 20% unallocated power from Central Power Stations. The problem of inadequate/unstable power supply faced by some of the existing fertilizer plants is also being/would be minimised by provision of captive power facilities, wherever feasible. The new gas-based fertilizer projects would also have captive power units so that they are insulated from power problems.

There is no proposal to provide natural gas as feedstock to the fertilizer plants in Orissa.

Production of Low Ply Rated Tyres

2271. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to fix tyre prices and/or to force the tyre manufacturers to increase production of cheaper low ply rated tyres so that the consumers may have adequate choice;

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

(c) what is the contemplation of the Government in this regard; and

(d) what was the rate of increase in the annual production of different ply rated tyres in the country during the last five years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government at present.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) Indian tyre industry manufactures a wide range of tyres in more than 200 different ply ratings. Statistics of different ply rated tyres for different sizes and varieties of tyres is not maintained. However, there has been an overall increase in production of tyres by about 31% during last five years.

Export of Maruti Cars

2272. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great demand of Maruti Car in the country;

(b) whether any foreign country has shown interest in Importing Maruti car from India;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the Government policy in regard to export of Maruti car, if demanded ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Neighbouring countries like Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh and some countries in East Europe have