

In addition to the Nathpa Jhakri Hydro-electric project (1020 MW), the modalities for execution of which as a joint venture between Government of India and Govt. of Himachal Pradesh are under active consideration, the following hydro-electric projects are under techno-economic examination in Central Electricity Authority/Central Water Commission;—

Project	Installed Capacity (MW)	Annual Energy (Gwh)
Uhl St. III	70	294
Lerji	126	570
Chamera St. II	273	1192
Ghanvi	15	96
Sanjay Augmentation	—	54

Modifications in Broad-banding Scheme

3281. SHRI ANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has called upon Government for modifications in the broad banding scheme of items of manufacture to render the licensing mechanism more flexible ;

(b) if so, what is the precise demand of the Federation ;

(c) whether broad-banding in respect of various classes of items of manufacture has already been amended ; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO - CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) A Panel Discussion organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry in September 1985 on broad banding, while welcoming the scheme of broad banding, have *interalia* suggested further liberalisation in the policy of broad banding, stipulation of a minimum economic capacity for each industry and simplification of pro-

cedures in regard to the scheme of broad banding in respect of MRTF/FERA Companies.

(c) and (d) Amplification and rationalisation of the industrial policy is a continuing exercise and the suggestions made in this regard including those made by the Panel are taken into account while considering further measures in accordance with the industrial policy

Oil exploration in Andhra Pradesh

3282. SHRI V. TULSI RAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering exploration of oil and gas in the basin of the major rivers in Andhra Pradesh which have rich reserves ;

(b) if so, the details of the areas identified for the purpose ;

(c) the details of the scheme in this regard ; and

(d) the time by which the scheme will be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : (a) and (b) Exploration for oil and gas by ONGC in the Krishna-Godavari basin in Andhra Pradesh is already in progress. Wells have been drilled in Narsapur, Razole, Amlapuram. Bhimanapalli, Kaikalur, Modi and Kaza, Drilling is in progress at Tatipaka, Matsyapuri and Bhimanapalli.

In addition the following locations have been identified for future drilling : Pasarlapudi, Pallakollu, Draksharma, Surasaryanam, Pulletikuru, Vetlapalam, Vadapar, Mardapela, Magatapalle, Kommugudem and Achanta.

(c) and (d) It is proposed to drill 7 wells in 1985-86 and 9 wells in 1986-87. Drilling is likely to continue throughout the Seventh Plan period.

Allocation of Kerosene to Kerala

3283. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU :
SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN :

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

(a) the total monthly demand for kerosene in Kerala ;

(b) how much kerosene is being supplied at present ;

(c) whether Government of Kerala have demanded more allocation of kerosene ; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to meet the demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (d) The requirement of kerosene of States/Union Territories including Kerala State is normally assessed by allowing a 5% growth over the allocation made during the corresponding period of the previous year on a four-month-block basis.

For the present Winter Block comprising the months of November, 1985 to February, 1986, an allocation at the enhanced rate of 7½% has been made to enable the State Government to meet the likely increased demand. Accordingly, Kerala has been allocated a total quantity of 17,240 tonnes per month for the Winter Block, as against 16840 tonnes asked for by the Kerala Government in September, 1985.

Measures to Check Increase in tyre Prices

3284. SHRI ANIL BASU :
SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent increase in tyre prices resorted to by the tyre industry despite informal understanding with Government, is totally out of proportion to the increase in costs of various inputs of the said industry ;

(b) if so, whether any measures have been taken to ensure fair prices to the ultimate users by screwing the industry ; details of the measures taken, if any ;

(c) if not, whether some measures will be initiated now ;

(d) if so, when ; and

(e) if not, the reasons for that decision ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Price increases resorted to by the industry in March, 1985 vary from unit to unit as well as from variety to variety in each unit. However, according to an analysis made by BICP, by and large, increase in prices of tyres in March, 1985 was not generally in proportion to increase in production costs as a result of 1985-86 Budget. There has been no increase in manufacturers' prices since March, 1985.

(b) to (e) In absence of control on prices of raw materials and conversion costs and in the prevailing competitive market condition, where the installed capacity is in excess of what the market can sustain, Government do not consider it necessary to intervene in the prices/distribution of prices of tyres. However, Government constantly reviews measures required to stabilise the prices of raw materials and other inputs as well as the incidence of indirect taxes so as to enable the tyre industry to maintain the prices of tyres at reasonable level. Import of automotive tyres has also been placed under open General Licence.

[*Transaltion*]

Take over of Rohtas Group of Industries,
Dalmia Nagar (Bihar)

3285. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that twenty thousand labourers are facing starvation due to closure of Rohtas Group of Industries at Dalmia Nagar in Bihar since a long time ;

(b) if so, whether Government of Bihar have sent a proposal for the take-over by the Union Government ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto ?