

(a) whether it is a fact that the world's largest Helium gas reserves are available at Ghotra and Mahendra Tiba in Jaisalmer area in Rajasthan ;

(b) whether it is a fact that Bhabha Atomic Research Centre is soon going to set up a Helium gas based research plant in Jaisalmer ; and

(c) how Union Government will use this gas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c). ONGC and BARC have carried out a preliminary joint study to determine the possibility of Helium extraction from ONGC's fields in Rajasthan. The possibility of extracting Helium will be considered after the reserves and composition of the natural gas from these fields is firmly established.

#### Supply of coal to power stations in Rajasthan

3947. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Rajasthan have made some suggestions to Union Government for adequate supply of coal to the proposed gas-based power plant and thermal power stations including Kota Thermal Power Station ; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any decision on the suggestions made by State Government ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SETHE) : (a) and (b). Requests have been received from the Rajasthan Government for increased supply of coal to the Thermal Power Station in the State. Coal Linkages to Thermal Power Stations are finalised by the Standing Linkage Committee (Short term) on quarterly-basis. The Standing Linkage Committee consists of the representatives of Departments of

Coal and Power, Ministry of Railways, Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and the coal companies. The Standing Linkage Committee takes into consideration the requirement of coal of individual power station and linkages are established accordingly. The monthly coal linkages proposed to be given to Kota Thermal Power Station for the quarter April-June, 1987 are as under :

30,000 tonnes/month from SECL.

80,000 tonnes/month from NCL

[English]

#### Supply of Power by Tamil Nadu Electricity board to Madras Refineries Limited

3948. SHRI A. JAYAMOCHAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have taken steps to ensure continuous supply of power by the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board at concessional tariff to the Madras Refineries Limited ; and

(b) whether Government propose to make permanent arrangement with the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board for the supply of power at concessional rate to the Madras Refineries Ltd.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). Under the Electricity (supply) Act, 1948, it is within the purview of the State Governments/State Electricity Boards to fix tariffs for supply of power to various categories of consumers. According to the information available, the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board supplies power to the Madras Refineries Ltd. at rates applicable to other HT industries.

#### Entry of Monopoly Houses into Small Scale Sector

3949. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA-MURTY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :