

Sir. TPA and DMT are both the alternative raw-materials for the manufacture of synthetic fibres and yarns and both the items are under the limited permissible items of imports. The DGTD has recommended import of TPA to certain units after ascertaining that they are the genuine users of TPA and that they do not have facility to use DMT.

(c) The imports of TPA is restricted in order to have maximum utilisation of domestic capacity for production of DMT.

(d) It is reported that polyester fibre manufacturers have passed on the benefit of excise duty reduction to the users of polyester fibres.

(e) The Government does not propose to ban the import of TPA. However, the efforts of the Government are to ensure that the production of DMT by indigenous units is fully utilised and import of TPA is only restricted for those units who are genuine users of TPA and who do not have the facility of using DMT.

Dual Pricing Policy

4304. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to extend the policy of dual pricing to medicine;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the justification thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). The Government have not finalised their views on the New Drug Policy.

Complaints of Short Supply of LPG by Eastern India Petroleum Dealers Association

4305. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Eastern India Petroleum Dealers Association has complained that the supplies of cooking gas by Indian Oil Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation since September, 1985 continued to be less than 45 per cent of the requirements;

(b) if so, the reasons for such short supply;

(c) whether the Association has also threatened to close down all L.P.G. Shops if the supply position is not improved; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the supply position of cooking gas by I.O.G. and H.P.C. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (d). While no specific written complaint or threat has been received from the Eastern India Petroleum Dealers Association, supplies of LPG to markets in West Bengal were adversely affected in September, 1985, by heavy rains and cyclone resulting in problems in transportation of the product. Corrective action to clear the backlog was taken through augmentation of supplies from the kalyani, Bongaigaon and Nagpur bottling plants.

[Translation]

Setting up of Thermal Power Station based on Coal from Singrauli

4306. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board has submitted many proposals for setting up of a coal-based thermal power station by getting coal from Singrauli;

(b) whether the first proposal in this regard was submitted in the year 1971 and that every time these proposals were not accepted for one reason or the other;

(c) whether the same proposal in regard to Bandhav thermal station has been submitted recently;