

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). Due to inadequate production of Alcohol in the country the supply to industrial units, including drug units, was not enough to meet their full requirements. Government has, therefore, permitted duty-free import of Alcohol (denatured) to actual users (industrial).

(c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research, at the Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Trivandrum, has developed processes for using tapioca for the production of alcohol. The process has, however, not yet gone into commercial use.

(d) to (f). Manufacture of alcohol involves chemical process. The reference however, appears to be to Synthetic Alcohol, which is manufactured in USA on a large scale. Synthetic Alcohol is not being manufactured in India.

Shifting of Head Office of Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company

4427. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Head Office of Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company has been shifted from Muzaffarpur to Patna by the Chairman-cum-Managing Director which has raised the establishment cost ten times; and

(b) whether Government are contemplating any enquiry in the matter and, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The Head Office of the Bharat Wagon and Engineering Company Limited was shifted from Muzaffarpur to Patna in April '82 as per decision of the Board of Directors approved by the Central Government because of distinct advantages of the head office being in Patna after taking all aspects into consideration.

(b) No, Sir.

Drilling in Coastal Areas of Andhra Pradesh

4428. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : SHRI MANIK REDDY :

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

(a) whether there is any proposal by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission for on shore drilling and for increasing the rigs in the coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the target of increase in rigs;

(c) the exploratory wells planned to be taken up for drilling in 1985-86; and

(d) the funds allocated for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b). ONGC proposal to increase the total number of operating rigs to 5 during the current year 1985-86 and to 6 during 1986-87 against 4 rigs currently operating in Krishna-Godavari onshore (Andhra Pradesh).

(c) Ten.

(d) About Rs. 57 crores.

Taking Over of Sick Power Plants

4429. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : SHRI MANIK REDDY : SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MATIK : SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of power plants have been lying sick in various parts of the country;

(b) the names and number of such plants lying sick in each state;

(c) the names of sick power plants which are proposed to be taken over by Government; and

(d) the funds allocated therefor ?