

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). One Soviet seismic party is at present conducting seismic survey work in the Ariyalur-Pondicherry depression area in Cauvery basin. The results of this work will be known after the data is processed and interpreted.

(c) The drilling of the first well by the Soviet agency is expected to be started in March 1987.

Uniform power rates in different regions

4476. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is Government's policy to charge uniform power rates in different regions of the country where power is produced by Thermal Power Stations; and

(b) if so, whether it will not be against the interest of other thermal power generating Corporations like Neyveli Lignite Corporation whose cost of power production has gone up in the recent past ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) There is no such policy at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Marketing of bicycles of Cycle Corporation of India

4477. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have been able to market 30,000 bicycles in the stock of Cycle Corporation of India Limited as on 30 March, 1986;

(b) the if not reasons thereof; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to export the bicycles to reduce the stock ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) Presently, there are only 20,000 bicycles in the stock of the Cycle Corporation of India.

(b) Lack of demand for the cycles in stock is the main reason.

(c) The Company is making efforts to export the Cycles.

Project to manufacture PTA at Madras Refineries Ltd.

4478. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have cleared the project to manufacture PTA with help from the private sector at Madras Refineries Ltd.

(b) if so, whether the expansion programme at the Aromatics Complex in MRL has been taken up; and

(c) the particulars of the private organisation that has been considered by Government to tie up with MRL ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c). The Madras Refineries Limited, a central public sector company has submitted an application for issue of an industrial licence for production of PTA in Tehsil Manali, District Chingleput (Tamil Nadu). Such applications for Industrial licence are considered on merits.

Technological upgradation of important Industries

4479. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :