

Company set up in the Central Sector for construction of large Thermal Stations and for their operation and maintenance. The Central Government have, therefore, deemed it necessary to allow the NTPC to manage and operate the Badarpur station and complete the construction work of its expansion programme in order that this can be done by an organisation specially geared for this purpose. Under the circumstances, transfer of Badarpur Thermal Power Station to DESU would not be feasible.

**Revised guidelines on Managerial Remuneration**

1041. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of Law, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to issue revised administrative guidelines on managerial remuneration in the light of the Gujarat High Court judgement;

(b) if so, the broad outline thereof, and

(c) whether these would cover public sector also?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) to (c). There is no proposal before Government to revise the existing administrative guidelines governing the payment of remuneration to the managerial personnel of public limited companies and private companies which are subsidiaries of public limited companies. These guidelines do not apply to public sector undertakings incorporated as companies.

**Non-availability and High Price of Life Saving Drugs**

1042. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that the disappearance of some vital life-saving

drugs from the market and the spurt in the prices of some other medicinal items are the first signs of an impending crisis in drugs and medicines; and

(b) if so, the measures Government propose to take to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Government have not received any reports of disappearance of any vital life-saving drug from the market. Shortages of branded products are, however, reported from time to time from various regions. Equivalents are generally available in these cases.

All vital life-saving drugs are under price control. Govt. have not allowed any price increases for price-controlled drugs after March, 1978. It is, however, possible that some price increases might have taken place in the following cases:

(i) formulations outside price control which are of a non-essential nature; and

(ii) formulations manufactured by the small scale units having an annual turnover not exceeding Rs. 50 lakhs since such units are outside price control subject to their following leader prices for Categories I & II products.

(b) Does not arise.

**Northern States refused to instal Load Despatch Centres Equipment**

1043. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various Northern States have refused to instal, load despatch centres equipment of the Siemen as requested by the Central Electricity Authority; and

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Crisis in Sodium Dichromate Plants**

1044. **SHRI SATYA GOPAL MISRA:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Sodium Dichromate Plants are facing crisis due to shortage of raw material;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) steps taken by Government to remove the crisis;

(d) what is the allocation of the raw materials for each State; and

(e) the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL):** (a) Yes, Sir. Out of the three main raw-materials viz. Soda Ash, Chromite Ore and Sulphuric Acid, representations have been received from some manufacturers of Sodium Dichromates regarding the shortage of Soda Ash. No representations have been received regarding the shortage of other raw-materials.

(b) Soda Ash which was freely available in the country till end of 1977, has been in short supply since then. The main reason for the shortage of this chemical in the country is that the indigenous production has not kept pace with the rise in demand for this item. The existing manufacturers have also been unable to increase their production due to constraints on the availability and movement of coal and coke.

(c) There is no statutory control over the distribution and prices of Soda Ash. Nevertheless the Government have issued guidelines to all the manufacturers of Soda Ash which ensure that all industrial consumers who were taking the material direct

from the manufacturers continue to get the quantity they got in 1977, a year of normal supply. As a result a little more than 80 per cent of the Soda Ash produced locally is going direct to industrial consumers (including Sodium Dichromate manufacturers) at the manufacturers price. There is also constant monitoring in Government of the supply being made by the manufacturers. A quantity of about 20,000 tonnes has been imported by the State Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Corporation of India Ltd., New Delhi (CPC) and distributed through State Government agencies to the Small Scale Sector. Apart from this, Soda Ash import is on open general licence for actual users under which any actual user of Soda Ash can import this chemical directly should he find it difficult to procure the same locally.

(d) Since there is no statutory control over the distribution of the raw-materials the question of allocation of these to the States by the Central Government does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Shifting of Head Offices of M/s. NFL, RCF, FPDIL and FCI**

1045. **SHRI SATYA GOPAL MISRA:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state whether he is aware that as per the recommendations by the High Court Working Group the Head Offices of M/s. RCF, M/s. NFL, M/s. FPDIL and M/s. FCI were shifted to Bombay/Delhi, Delhi/Sindri, Delhi/Patna respectively except the Head Office of Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation Limited (HFCL) which is yet to be shifted from Delhi to Calcutta?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL):** The reorganisation of the FCI and NFL w.e.f. 1.4.1978 has resulted in the formation of five Companies viz. BCF with its headquarters at Bombay, FPDIL with