

the formulation prices continue to be pegged at the levels fixed before March 1978.

Production of Super Phosphate by Fertilizer Corporation of India Unit at Haldia

1047. SHRI SATYA GOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to extend F.C.I. Unit at Haldia for producing Super Phosphate; if so, details thereof; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b). There is at present no proposal under consideration for expansion of the fertilizer project at Haldia, which is owned by the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited. The existing project is yet to be commissioned on account of non-availability of power.

New Oil Bearing Structure at South of Bombay

1048. SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new oil bearing structure has been found at South of Bombay;

(b) if so, whether production potential of the region has been assessed; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. A new oil bearing structure named R-7, about 120 Kms. South-West of Bombay City was discovered in May 1980.

(b) No, Sir. The assessment has yet to be done.

(c) Does not arise.

Independent Body to decide Election Petitions ..

1049. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of Law, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any suggestion for setting up an independent body to decide election petitions quickly was made by the Chief Election Commissioner; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

The MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Though the Chief Election Commissioner has informally expressed such a view, no such suggestion has been made formally by him.

(b) Does not arise.

Sale of Molasses

1050. SHRI CHANDRA DEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether sometimes the States Governments offer molasses to public through "free sale" or public auction, etc.;

(b) if so, details of restrictions, if any, imposed by the Central Government on inter-State movement of such molasses;

(c) if reply to (b) is in the negative, whether the Central Government have any objection to free inter-State movement of such molasses by respective purchases; and

(d) if so, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Under the Molasses Control Order, 1961 issued by the Government of India in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in March, 1961 as amended from time

to time, sale of molasses to public through "free sale" or "public auction" is not allowed. This Control Order is, however, not applicable to the States of Bihar, U.P., Maharashtra, Punjab, Harayana and West Bengal who have their own Molasses Control Acts. Sale of molasses in these States is regulated in accordance with the provisions of the respective Molasses Control Acts of these States.

No instances of Molasses being offered to the public through free sale or public auction have been reported to the Central Government from States and Union Territories to which Central Molasses Control Order 1961 is applicable

(b) There is no statutory control on the inter-State movement of Molasses. The Central Government, however, makes allocation of molasses from surplus States to meet the requirements of deficit States. These allocations are made on the recommendations of the Central Molasses Board. Inter-State movement of molasses is done against the allocations so made.

(c) and (d). Molasses constitute an essential raw material for production of alcohol which is a feedstock for a large number of alcohol based industries. With a view to ensuring utilisation of alcohol and molasses in a judicious manner, it is desirable and necessary to regulate inter-state movement.

Calling of Tenders by Indian Oil Corporation for import of Kerosene, Oil and Diesel

1051. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) whether tenders were invited recently by Indian Oil Corporation for buying oil, kerosene and diesel from abroad;

(b) whether the tender was for a spot purchase;

(c) if so, the names of the companies who sent tenders and the names of the companies from whom offer was accepted;

(d) whether it is a fact that the company was offered a contract for full one year; and

(e) if so, the reasons for changing from spot purchase to contract for one year?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) to (e). Tenders are invited by Indian Oil Corporation for purchase of deficit products like kerosene and diesel from time to time. It would not be in the public interest to disclose details of the tenders accepted in such cases.

Re-organisation of the Public Sector Coal Corporation

1502. SHRI D. P. JADEJI: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to reorganise the Public Sector Coal Corporation and the Coal Department;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details for reorganising it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN):

(a) to (c). There is no proposal under Government's consideration for the reorganisation of the Coal Department. The organisational structure of Coal India Ltd. has, however, been reviewed and it has been decided that in some of the subsidiary companies, Directors may be placed in charge or geographical divisions. This has been done with a view to decentralising authority and responsibility so as to enable Coal India to meet the increasing requirements of coal production in coming years.