

MID, PWD and Railways are facing acute shortage of cement and steel, and this has hampered the civil and other development of infra-structure works; and

(f) what steps are being taken by Government to remove these obstacles?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) to (d). The appointment of consultants for the construction of the ammonia plants of the four gas-based fertilizer projects being set up in Maharashtra and Gujarat is still to be finalised. After the present Government took office, it was decided to have a second look at the selection of the contractor for the ammonia plants of these projects. A Committee of experts was, therefore, set up to assess the relative merits of the foreign firms who had earlier submitted bids for this consultancy. The Committee's report has just been received.

(e) and (f). The Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited and agencies implementing the project are experiencing some difficulty in procuring the required quantities of cement and steel. The matter has been taken up with the concerned authorities with a view to improving the supplies of cement and steel required for the project.

Completion of Preliminary Works for That Vaishet Fertilizer Plant

1080. SHRI R. K. MHALGI:

PROFESSOR MADHU DAN-
DAVATE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) is it a fact that all the preliminary works such as land acquisition, building, roads, railway sidings have been completed for the purpose of the Bombay High gas based fertilizer plant to come up at that Thal-Vaishet (District Kolaba, Maharashtra);

(b) whether Government are considering to shift the location of the giant fertilizer plant from Thal-Vaishet (District Kolaba, Maharashtra State); and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for such a move?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Arrangement have been firmed up for the provision of infrastructural facilities like land, water, power, coal, natural gas, railway facilities etc. The land required for the factory has been acquired and the strengthening and upgradation of roads has been completed. Work on the construction of township, railway siding, etc. is in progress.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

BUDGET ESTIMATES OF DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION FOR 1980-81 AND ERRATA TO CENTRAL ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY REGULATIONS, 1979

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy of the Budget Estimates (Hindi and English versions) of Damodar Valley Corporation, for the year 1980-81, under sub-section (3) of section 44 of the Damodar Valley Act, 1948. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-886/80].

(2) 'Errata' (Hindi and English versions) to the Central Electricity Authority Regulations, @ 1979. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-887/80].