

(b) The Company has reported that the air brakes will be manufactured and delivered as per schedule given in the order.

**Assigning Chemical Catalyst Manufacturing Plant to a Multinational Company**

6388. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an offer by a multinational company for chemical catalyst manufacturing plant is under consideration of Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a Union Government Undertaking is considered to be a pioneer organisation in the field of catalyst technology having own production plants; and

(c) if so, the reasons for assigning the job to a multinational company ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a), (b) and (c). It is presumed that the Hon'ble Member desires information in respect of the recent proposal for the issuance of industrial licence submitted by M/s. Haldor Topsoe A/S, Denmark for setting up of a plant for the manufacture of Co-conversion catalysts, 2000 Tonnes per annum, Nickel catalysts for methanation, 1000 tonnes per annum and Ammonia Synthesis catalysts, 600 tonnes per annum. No final view has been taken on the proposal so far.

M/s. Projects & Development India Limited (PDIL), a public sector company, has been playing a pioneering role in the field of catalyst technology. However, the possibilities of technical collaboration in the field of chemical catalyst manufacture cannot be ruled out at this stage. Any proposal could be considered on its individual merits.

[Translation]

**Modernisation of Sindri Plant**

6389. SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL

SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure incurred on the setting up of the Modernisation Plant (Ammonia and Urea Plant) at Sindri;

(b) the daily production capacity of the said plant;

(c) whether the said plant is working to its full capacity;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by Government therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) The total expenditure incurred on Sindri Modernisation Plant upto March, 1985 was Rs. 180.14 crores.

(b) The daily production capacity of Ammonia and Urea Plants is 900 tonnes and 1000 tonnes respectively.

(c) and (d). The capacity utilisation of the plant during the last three years was :

Year	%age capacity utilisation (N <sub>2</sub> )
1982-83	59.9
1983-84	59.2
1984-85	62.2

(e) Higher capacity utilisation could not be achieved due to problems in the Air-Separation Plant, Syn. Gas Compressor and Co-Conversion Sections of the Plant.

These jobs would be attended to during annual turn-around period in August, 1985.

[English]

**Setting up of Ancillary Units Around Krishna-Godavari Basin**

6390. SHRI VIJAYA KUMAR RAJU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to start ancillary units around the Krishna-Godavari Basin area; and

(b) if so, the time by which these units will be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b). The setting up of hydrocarbon based units around the Krishna-Godavari basins would be considered at an appropriate time when commercial reserves of hydrocarbon are established in this basin.

**Commencement of Commercial Production at Krishna-Godavari Basin**

6391. SHRI VIJAYA KUMAR RAJU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether more funds have been allocated for the Bombay High and Assam for further exploration during this year's Budget;

(b) the reasons why the same amount has not been granted for the Krishna-Godavari Basin for further exploration work;

(c) whether the ONGC spokesmen has indicated in the newspapers that the commercial production at Krishna-Godavari Basin would start soon; and

(d) if so, the date by which the commercial production would start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The annual budget allocation for a basin is related to the physical programme of work such as exploratory surveys, exploratory drilling etc. to be undertaken during a year.

(c) and (d). The exact date of commencement of production of crude oil and gas from

the Krishna-Godavari Basin cannot be indicated at this stage.

**Upgradation of Post Offices**

6392. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken steps for the upgradation of some Post Offices in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such Post Offices upgraded in the Sixth Five Year Plan period, year-wise in different States and Union Territories;

(c) the number of Post Offices upgraded in Keonjhar district of Orissa in the above Plan period; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The required information is being collected and will be laid at the table of the House in due course.

(c) and (d). Five Branch Post Offices named below were upgraded in Keonjhar district of Orissa during the 6th Five Year Plan.

- (1) Kuntipal
- (2) Kesudurapal
- (3) Dhanurjaypur
- (4) Dhananjaypur
- (5) Machhagarh.

**Decline in the Production of Essential Drugs in the Units of M/s. E. Merck (I) Ltd.**

6393. SHRI DEBI GHOSAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether production of some essen-