

(b) The matter regarding pricing of gas to be supplied to power projects is under consideration of Government.

#### **Export of Naphtha**

3742. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Naphtha is being exported by Indian Oil Corporation for a long time while crude oil is freely sold against free foreign exchange for the last one year against counter trade thereby resulting in loss of foreign exchange ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) ; (a) and (b). High Aromatic Naptha surplus to our requirements is exported by Indian Oil Corporation. No crude oil was sold against counter trade. The question of any loss in foreign exchange thereby does not arise.

#### **Purchase of Aromex by Petrochemical plants of Bombay and Calcutta**

3743. SHRI SAIFUDDIN AHMED : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of Aromex purchased in the year 1985 from Digboi Refinery by Calcutta and Bombay petrochemical plants and the value per kilolitre ;

(b) the quantity of formulated finished product sent back to Assam by Calcutta and Bombay Plants and value thereof ; and

(c) whether there is goods scope for utilisation of Aromex produced from Assam crude locally to avoid unnecessary haulage within the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Aromex is not used in Petrochemical Complexes at present.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### **Appointment of Acting Chief Justices of High Courts**

3744. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) in which High Court acting Chief Justices have been appointed and are functioning ;

(b) the reasons therefor ; and

(c) how many of them are from the same State and how many from outside the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (c). As on 8-8-86, the High Courts of Gauhati, Karnataka and Rajasthan were having Acting Chief Justices appointed from within the respective High Courts.

In Gauhati High Court the permanent Chief Justice was on leave, while in the other two High Courts the offices of Chief Justices were vacant.

#### **Use of Machines of B.C.C.L. for Demolitions**

3745. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the machines of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. were used on 30 May, 1986 to demolish the houses of the villagers in Ram Kanali Colliery and Keshalpur village in Dhanbad district of Bihar ; if so, facts thereof ;

(b) whether it was done with the permission of the management ; and

(c) if so, the justification for such permission and if not, the steps taken against this unauthorised action ?

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :** (a) to (c). At the request of District Law & Order authorities, one dozer was placed at their disposal by the BCCL for a few hours on 30-5-86. To what use this dozer was put is being ascertained from the State Government.

#### Vacuum as Future Energy Source

3746. **SHRI NARSING SURYA-WANSHI :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the news item appearing in the 'Indian Express, dated the 17th July, 1986 captioned "Vacuum as future energy source" ;

(b) whether Government are also aware that a scientist of the Department of Atomic Energy, Bombay claims that he has built a machine which generates electricity from empty space or vacuum ; and

(c) if so, whether Union Governments are examining the feasibility of exploitation of space energy source ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Declaration of Hassan and Kodag as 'No Industry' Districts in Karnataka

3747. **SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of

Karnataka have urged the Union Government to include Hassan and Kodag districts of Karnataka in the list of 'No Industry' Districts thereto ; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Inter-Ministerial Committee has been constituted to review and revise the existing schemes for industrialisation of Backward Areas/'No Industry Districts'. The suggestion has been referred to the Committee.

#### Assistance by World Bank for HBJ Pipeline

3748. **SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has offered to give assistance for the Hazira-Bijapur-Jagdishpur gas pipeline project ;

(b) if so, the amount offered by the World Bank ;

(c) whether other countries are also willing to invest in that project and the amount offered for investment ; and

(d) the policy of Government in the context of aid offered by the World Bank and other countries ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) :** (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Project is not currently in the World Bank's lending programme.

(c) The details are as follows :

(i) *Japan* : Japanese assistance of two tranches totalling Yen 35.8 billion have already been signed. Another