

allowed under REP licences for direct import @ 6% on the f.o.b. value of realisation. Similarly, against export of fatty acids, fatty amines, direct import of palm oil, copra/coconut oil is allowed to the extent of 50% of the face value of REP licences admissible @ 20% of f.o.b. value of realisation. Separate statistics of these REP licences and imports against them are not maintained. However particulars of these licences are published in the weekly bulletins of import licences, export licences and industrial licences, copies of which are also available in the Parliament Library.

(c) There is no machinery to check such specific cases. However, there is a provision to conduct *suo moto* inspection of firms obtaining the licences to ascertain whether the imported goods have been properly utilised. Such inspection covers a small percentage of all import licences granted. In addition, as and when any violation of conditions of import licences/misutilisation of imported goods come to the notice of Government, appropriate action is taken under the provisions of Imports and Exports Control Act, 1947 as amended and the orders issued thereunder.

Expenditure on drilling in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

1533. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure incurred so far for offshore drilling in Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the results thereof;

(b) whether Government have decided to stop further drilling in Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(c) if not, when next work of ONGC is expected to begin in Andaman and Nicobar Islands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMADUTT) : (a) A total of Rs. 130.44

Crs. were incurred upto 31st March, 87 out of 15 exploratory wells drilled, gas was discovered in only one well.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Future drilling programme will depend upon the analysis of existing seismic and drilling data as well as acquisition of fresh data from the area.

Industrial policy for Union Territory of A&N Islands

1534. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised any industrial policy for the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details along with the incentives proposed to be provided; and

(c) if not, when the policy is likely to be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) There is no separate industrial policy as such for the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. However, these Islands are included in Category 'A' for purpose of grant of incentives for industries in backward areas/districts.

Price of Tyres and Tubes

1535. SHRI MOHAN BHAI PATEL : SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of tyres and tubes has been affected due to the shortage of rubber;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to import rubber or tyres to meet the demand;

(c) whether Government are aware that the prices of tyres are increasing off and on;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures taken by Government to check the rising trend of tyre prices in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The Government have not received any report from the tyre companies regarding their production being affected due to shortage of rubber.

(c) to (e) There is no statutory control over the prices of tyres. According to the tyre manufacturers, rising cost of production is the main reason for the increase in tyre prices.

Import of gas turbines

1536. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the gas turbines are being imported;

(b) if so, the amount spent on the import of gas turbines annually, during the last three years;

(c) whether the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited has acquired the capacity for manufacturing gas turbines;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any foreign collaboration has been entered into; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Applications for import of power generating equipments (including gas turbines) except diesel generating sets for stand by power generation, are considered by an Empowered Committee under the Ministry of Industry in terms of para 40 of the Import-Export Policy 1985-88 and the approval for import is given on merit of each case after taking into account the offers received against the global tenders and after considering the indigenous availability of the equipment. During the last three years following approvals for import of gas turbines have been given by the Empowered Committee :

Year	Name of the party	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
1984-85		
1.	Maharsahtra State Electricity Board, Bombay.	1690.43
1985-86		
1.	M/s. Indian Petro-Chemicals Corpn. Ltd, Baroda.	2252.14
1986-87		
1.	M/s. Madras Refineries Limited, Madras.	734.38
2.	M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corpn. Ltd, Bombay.	1743.00