THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM): (a) and (b) With a view to meeting the requirements of the new generation of vehicles now being manufactured in the country, Govt. have encouraged the auto ancillaries to modernise, upgrade and induct latest technology. For quicker indigenisation of the new vehicles Govt. have extended facilities like delicensing, broad banding and certain fiscal concessions to the auto ancillary industry.

(c) Fiscal concessions extended to the vehicles as well as component manufacturers are basel on the criteria of fuel efficiency, phased manufacturing programme etc. and continuance of fiscal concessions are periodically reviewed by the Government.

Oil operations in Assam

1613. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the institutional arrangement to control and oversee the oil operation in Assam;

(b) how the senior executive of Oil India Limited keep a watch on these operations; and

(c) what steps are under consideration of Government to improve the working of oil drilling operations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA-DUTT): (a) and (b) The operations of Oil India Limited (OIL) in Assam are controlled from the Field Headquarters of the Company situated at Duliajan (Assam) and headed by its Director (Operations). The Director (Operations) is supported by Financial Controller and other senior officers looking atter exploration, production and other operations.

(c) OIL is taking necessary steps to to improve its working. Government have directed OIL to take up crash programme for recruitment and training of technical personnel. Government have also decided to move the Chairman - cum - Managing Director and other functional Directors from Delhi to Duliajan for better operational control of OIL, whose major areas of operation are located in Assam.

Licences for petrochemical projects

1614. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrochemical projects for which licences have been issued during the financial year 1987-88;

(b) the number of projects which have been put on ground; and

(c) the reasons for slow implementation of the projects in this sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM): (a)to(c) No large Petrochemical Complex has been sanctioned in 1987-88. Licensing of Petrochemical projects is however a continuous process. The proposals for projects are examined on techno economic considerations including their location and costs. A large petrochemical project takes about 4 to 5 years for completion.

Suggestions from tyre industry

1615. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD ;

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Steps to make tyre industry efficient" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 22nd October, 1987 wherein it is stated what the Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association have made some