

(b) if so, when and the broad outlines of such a legislation; and

(c) whether Government have invited the views of the surplus molasses States ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) to (c) Considering the problems being faced by the deficit States in obtaining molasses from surplus States, suggestions for a Central legislation for distribution of molasses from sugar factories to distilleries have been received, which are at a preliminary stage of consideration.

Setting up of industries with central assistance in Uttar Pradesh (U.P)

1181. SHRI SALEEM I. SHERVANI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the number of industries set up with central assistance in Uttar Pradesh till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : Information with regard to the Central Industrial Projects in U.P. is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Commissioning of Panki Power Station

1182. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether 284-M.W. Panki Power Station has completely stopped generation; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to start commissioning of the above power station ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) There are 4 units at Panki Thermal Power Station, two of 32MW each were imported and two of 110MW each were supplied by

BHEL. All the 4 units are, at present under repair. The two imported units which were installed more than 20 years back are under repair from Sept., 1986 and May, 1986 respectively. The repair work on the first unit is almost over and the unit is expected to be back in operation by March, 1988. The second unit which was damaged severely in a blast in 1981 was re-commissioned in Fed., 1985 after repairs. The turbine again suffered damage on 6.5.1986, and the turbine rotor required replacement, for which UPSEB have placed a Letter of intent with M/s. KWU, West Germany. The unit is likely to be re-commissioned by the end of 1989. The third unit is shut down since 24.10.1987 due to damage to the generator transformer, which is under repair. During the shut down period, the renovation and modernisation of the unit is also being carried out. The unit is likely to be back in operation by the end of April, 1988. The fourth unit has been under shut down since 22.6.1987 due to a furnace explosion which caused extensive damage to the boiler. The unit is under repair. Simultaneously, renovation and modernisation of this unit is also being undertaken. The unit is likely to come back in operation in March, 1988.

Leather Industry in Orissa

1183. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a need to set up more units of Leather Industry in Orissa;

(b) whether any formal proposal has come from the State Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the action taken by Government thereon; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) There is scope for setting up leather units in Orissa.

(b) No formal proposal has been received from the State Government in this regard.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Financial assistance to users of gobar gas plants

1184. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether financial assistance is being given to the users of gobar gas plants in villages;

(b) if so, whether such assistance is given directly or through employees;

(c) whether Government have come to know of instances of bungling in giving such financial assistance through employees resulting in denial of assistance to users ;

(d) if so, the action taken thereon ; and

(e) whether Government propose to give such assistance directly to the users ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) Central subsidy is being given to beneficiaries for setting up family size biogas (gobar gas) plants under the National Project for Biogas Development. The subsidy is not given directly by the Central Government or through its employees. It is routed through the State

Governments and Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Bombay.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

[English]

Raid conducted on hoarders and black marketeers

1185. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the concrete steps taken by Union Government to arrest hoarders and black-marketeters of essential commodities exploiting the situation caused due to the scarcity followed by unprecedented drought in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of raids conducted during 1987, the persons arrested and prosecutions launched, statewise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b) Action against unscrupulous persons indulging in malpractices in the trade of essential commodities such a hoarding and blackmarketing is being taken continuously by the States/Union Territories under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980. In view of the drought situation prevailing in large parts of the country, the States/UTs were asked to intensify the drive against hoarders, blackmarketeters etc. A Statement indicating the results of such a drive launched by the States/UTs is given below.

#### Statement

Progress of dehoarding drive launched in States/U.Ts. from 1.8.1987 to 31.12.1987

S. No.	State/UTs.	No. of raids conducted	No. of persons arrested	No. of prosecutions launched
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	548	566