

Setting up of Helium gas based research plant

1296. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3946 on 24 March, 1987 regarding setting up of Helium gas-based Research Plant by Bhabha Atomic Research Centre at Jaisalmer in Rajasthan and state :

(a) whether Helium extraction from ONGC's gas fields in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan has been established ;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Bhabha Atomic Research Centre is going to set up a Helium Gas based research plant in Jaisalmer; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) (a) to (c) Sufficient reserves for extraction of helium from ONGC's gas fields in Rajasthan are yet to be firmly established.

[Translation]

Gas based thermal plant in Ramgarh, Rajasthan

1297. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2631 on 24th November, 1987 regarding gas based thermal plant at Ramgarh, Rajasthan and state :

(a) whether there has been an agreement between the Rajasthan State Electricity Board and the Oil and Natural Gas Commission regarding the price of gas for the gas based plant to be installed in Ramgarh Jaisalmer district ;

(b) if so, the details of the agreement;

(c) whether Rajasthan State Electricity Board has invited global tenders for the purchase of Gas Turbine Plant ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

(e) the decision taken on the aforesaid tenders ; and

(f) the time by which the plant will be commissioned

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Fall in demand of polyester staple fibre

1298. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the demand for polyester staple fibre has fallen to less than one-third of the industry's capacity;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) how far the fiscal policy of Government has affected the polyester staple fibre producers ; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to remove the worsening situation faced by the polyester fibre industry ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) to (d) The demand for polyester staple fibre (PSF) in the country has been consistently growing, the process having been considerably facilitated by reduction in excise duty on PSF from Rs. 45/kg. to Rs. 25/kg. in August, 1985. At present, the production capacity of PSF has outstripped the demand primarily due to bunching of commissioning of a number of new units. To enable the industry to overcome this short-term imbalance, export of PSF has been permitted.