

**Centre for Energy Conservation**

\*180. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to set up a Centre for Energy Conservation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how this centre will achieve the desired goal of energy conservation; and

(d) the amount likely to be spent on the energy conservation centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI):

(a) and (b). Government propose to set up an Energy Management Centre at Nagpur with the main objective of promoting energy management techniques including energy conservation.

(c) The centre will achieve the objective of energy conservation through training energy Managers, exchange of research results on energy management, energy audit of Industries through energy buses, development of energy saving equipments, development of database on energy management technology upgradation and through energy management policy measures.

(d) According to rough estimates, the expenditure on the Centre is likely to range between Rs. 3 to 4 crores during the first three years.

**Drilling for Oil and Gas in Cochin High**

\*181. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether drilling work for finding oil and gas is going on in Cochin High;

(b) if so, the number of drilling platforms working at present; and

(c) whether there is any indication of oil or gas in that area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. One rig is presently deployed at location CSP-1.

(c) No indication of oil and gas is available as yet.

**Paper and Pulp Plants in Orissa**

\*182. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposals to set up some more paper and pulp plants in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the places where these plants are to be set up; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite their setting up?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) The Central Government have no proposal at present to set up paper or pulp mill in the Central Sector in the State of Orissa.

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

[Translation]

**Import of Paper**

1502. SHRI S.D. SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of paper in the country;

(b) whether the All India Federation of Master Printers has requested Government to grant permission for import of paper;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) the quantity of paper sought to be imported by the said Federation, the amount of Foreign Exchange involved therein and whether it will remove the shortage of paper?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) All India Federation of Master Printers in their letter of 6th February, 1989 inter alia, requested the Government to consider import of essential varieties of paper to check the upward trend in prices.

(c) and (d). Keeping in view the present level of production of paper and paper board, which more or less matches the demand, and the unutilised capacity in the industry, there is no proposal to import ordinary varieties of writing and printing paper.

[English]

#### Upgradation of technology in small scale sector

1503. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is need for upgradation and sophistication of technology in the small scale sector; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed by Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. Technology

upgradation is a continuing process.

(b) Government has taken up number of measures to upgrade the level of technology of small scale units. As an effective instrument for transfer of technology to small scale units, the following facilities have already been created.

(i) Process-cum-Product Development centres for glass & ceramics, foundry & forging, sports goods & leisure time equipment, domestic electrical appliances and electronic products.

(ii) Specialised toolrooms for design & development of tools, dies, jigs, fixtures & hand tools.

(iii) Regional testing centres and field testing stations for assisting in improvement of quality.

#### Area Break up of Post Offices and Sub-Post Offices in Maharashtra

1504. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the area to be covered by a post office and a sub-post office;

(b) the prevailing area break up of post office and sub-post office in Maharashtra and how it compares with other States;

(c) the areas still to be covered in the State as per the prescribed norms; and

(d) when it will be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) There are no hard and fast standards. However, as a general approach, in the rural sector a post office is expected to cover on average an area of about 25 to 30 Sq. Kms and in