

ment Council, the Scheme is being operated on 50:50 sharing basis between Centre and the State.

Supply of Oil from Iran in Exchange of Indian Technology

3459. SHRI BHIKHU RAM JAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Iran had expressed a desire to exchange its oil for Indian technology and negotiation for long term agreement between the two countries was going on; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) There has been no negotiations on a long term agreement for supply of crude oil from Iran to India in exchange for Indian technology during the recent visit of the Iranian delegation to India.

(b) Does not arise

Power Plant to Generate Electricity from Sea

3460. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to set up a power plant to generate electricity from the sea;

(b) if so, the names of coastal places where such power plants can be set up; and

(c) the nature of decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) to (c). Of the various ocean energy sources usable in electric power generation, like tidal power, wave power, ocean thermal

energy conversion and sea currents, tidal power is capable of exploitation on the basis of developed technology. Preliminary studies had been carried out on the possibility of development of tidal power in the past and an UNDP Expert also visited the country in 1975 to advise in the matter. The Gulfs of Kutch and Cambay along the west coast and the Sunderbans area in West Bengal along the East identified as the possible areas where the tidal range is fairly high and where tidal power could be developed. To finalise the schemes of development and establish their technical feasibility and economic justification detailed studies and investigations are required, necessitating an inter-disciplinary approach involving participation by several organisations. A Coordination Committee was set up in May, 1979 under the Chairmanship of the Chairman, Central Electricity Authority to consider further course of action and formulate programme of investigation and studies relating to tidal power development in the country.

The committee has since submitted a report for carrying out investigations at an estimated cost of Rs. 207.11 lakhs exclusive of the foreign exchange component of the order of US \$ 2,00,000 spread over for a period of 5 years. The Committee has recommended (i) short term field investigations, (ii) laboratory studies and (iii) long term field investigations.

The investigations have not yet been taken up.

मुजफ्फरपुर में एक औषध कारखाने की स्थापना का प्रस्ताव

3961. श्रीमती कृष्णा साहू: क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार का विचार उत्तर बिहार में मुजफ्फरपुर स्थान पर एक औषध कारखाने की स्थापना करने का है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस की स्थापना कब तक की जायेगी ?

पेट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री बोरेंद्र पाटिल) :

(क) और (ख). इन्डियन इंस एण्ड फार्मास्यूटिकल्स लि. ने मुजफ्फरपुर, उत्तरी बिहार में एक शोध कारखाना लगाया है जो शीघ्र ही चालू होने वाला है।

Decision to Import Crude Oil from Refineries in Gulf Area

3462. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that Government have decided to get about 1 million tonnes of crude oil processed in one of the refineries in the Gulf Area;

(b) if so, when the decision was taken and what is the name/location of the refinery; and

(c) what are the terms and conditions of the said arrangement?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b). Arrangements have been made to process upto 11 million tonnes of crude oil in the refinery in Aden. People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. The agreement was signed on 27-7-1979.

(c) It would not be in the commercial interest of Indian Oil Corporation and also contrary to international practices to disclose any further details.

Job Reservation for SC/ST

3463. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of reservation of jobs for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes persons in departments and public units falling under his Ministry, unit-wise; and

(b) whether there are proposals to raise this quota and make it uniform under his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) In accordance with a decision of the Government of India, the various Units under this Ministry are implementing the job reservation quotas for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, which are 15 per cent and 7½ per cent of the vacancies in respect of the respective categories. In respect of local and regional recruitment to class III & IV posts/services, made otherwise than through the UPSC, the percentages are based on the proportion of population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in particular States.

(b) Fixation or any changes in the percentages of reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is a matter that does not come within the purview of this Ministry.

Job reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

3464. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of jobs reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people in departments and public units falling under his Ministry; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to raise this quota and make it uniform under his ministry?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION (SHRI KEDAR PANDAY): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Power Minister's Conference held in Delhi to consider Power Situation

3465. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision was taken in the recent Power Minister's Conference held in Delhi regarding diffi-