

Disputes if not resolved amongst the concerned States in 3 months, should, by law, be referred to an arbitrator to be appointed by the Central Government who should be required to submit his award in 3 months, such an award should be made "non-justiciable" and that thirty "As an alternative the possibility of river and lake waters being declared a Central subject under a constitutional amendment may be given serious consideration"; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to this recommendation and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Irrigation who are primarily concerned with the subject have been requested to consider the recommendation of the Committee on Power.

Planning Commission's approval for Fertilizer Industry

2079. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission have approved a massive outlay during the Sixth Plan period (1980-81) for the fertilizer industry;

(b) if so, to what extent it would augment the production capacity of fertilizer industry; and

(c) reduce external dependence or import of this commodity?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Adequate provision has been made for the fertilizer programme envisaged during the 6th Five Year Plan.

(b) The installed capacity of fertilizer production which was 3.91 lakh 4089 LS-5.

tonnes of nitrogen and 12.3 lakh tonnes of $P^2 O^5$ at the beginning of the 6th Plan is expected to go up to about 65 lakh tonnes of nitrogen and 19 lakh tonnes of $P^2 O^5$ by the end of the Sixth Plan. This capacity would go up further to about 100 lakh tonnes of nitrogen and about 35 lakh tonnes of $P^2 O^5$ by 1989-90, by which time the new projects for which provision is being made in the Six Plan are expected to be completed.

(c) The percentage of import of nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers to their total consumption which was about 39 per cent at the beginning of the Sixth Plan is expected to go down to about 29 per cent by the end of the Sixth Plan and to about 15 per cent by 1989-90.

Decision on applications under section 30 of MRTP Act

2080. SHRI R. PRABHU: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Section 30 of the MRTP Act lays down that an application on the part of Government to decide any case under Sections 21, 22 and 23 of the Act within a period of 3 months in case the matter is not to be referred to the MRTP Commission;

(b) if so, how many applications under each of the Sections 21, 22 and 23 of the Act were decided during the year 1978, 1979 and 1980;

(c) the time taken in disposing of each such case;

(d) whether any single case was decided within a period of 3 months; and

(e) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to streamline the work of the administration of the MRTP Act to comply with the statutory provisions?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) According to Sub-Section 4 of Section 30, every notice, application or proposal which has not been referred to the Commission shall be disposed of by the Central Government within 90 days from the date on which such notice, application or proposal is received by it. But the Central Government may dispose of a notice, application or proposal in a time beyond the period of 90 days if special reasons exist. The provision is directory and not mandatory.

(b) and (c). Statements I, II and III are laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in library. See No. LT-2011/81].

(d) Yes Sir, thirty-five cases were disposed of within a period of ninety days.

(e) MRTP Act being an economic legislation with far reaching implications, the proposals have to be examined in depth from the various connected angles in consultation with other concerned Government Departments and no effort is being spared to dispose of the cases within the quickest possible time.

Additional Realisations from Price of Petroleum Products

2081. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:
SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) total additional amount expected to be realised through the latest price hike of each petroleum products;

(b) what was the total amount realised through price hike in June, 1980;

(c) the reasons why it became necessary to resort to the sweeping hike in the oil prices on the eve of the Budget Session; and

(d) whether he is aware that the latest price hike has already generated a chain reaction?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) About Rs. 1195 crores per annum.

(b) Total amount estimated to be realised through price hike in June 1980 is Rs. 2080 crores.

(c) The reasons for raising the prices of various petroleum products w.e.f. 13-1-81 are:—

(i) Increase in the price of imported crude by about Rs. 243 per tonne from the last price increase in June 1980 till January 1981 due to successive price increase by OPEC countries, including a 10 per cent increase w.e.f. January 1981.

(ii) Increase in the price of imported deficit petroleum products by about 35 per cent.

(iii) Increased imports to make good shortages on account of Assam oil blockade.

(iv) Costlier purchases in the spot market in the last quarter of 1980 due to disruption in supplies from Iran and Iraq.

(v) Increased rupee burdens due to escalation in operational costs including expenditure on new pipelines for transportation of Bombay High crude.

(d) (Due to the price rise of petroleum products w.e.f. 13-1-1981, it is estimated that the whole sale consumer price index is likely to rise by about one per cent only.