

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI):** (a) A letter of intent for setting up a plant for the manufacture of 15,000 tonnes/annum of polyester staple fibre has recently been issued to the Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd. Final decision on other similar proposals has not yet been taken.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) There is no such proposal.

**Land acquired in Kedla area of Central Coalfield Limited**

3915. **SHRI A. K. ROY:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) details of the land acquired and proposed to be acquired in 1981 from the peasants in the Kedla area of the Central Coalfield Limited and the jobs and compensation given or being offered to them, facts in details;

(b) whether it is a fact that no coherent policy is being followed by the Central Coalfield Limited towards the land losers resulting in great resentment in the village areas; and

(c) if so, steps taken on that?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN):** (a) Under the Land Acquisition Act, acquisition process for 8.38 acres of land in respect of Kedla (Opencast) Project has been completed and compensation paid to the tenants by the Land Acquisition Officer of the State Government, as per normal rules. Employment has also been provided to 90 persons. A further area of 332.42 acres of Tenancy land is also in the process of acquisition. Compensation for this land would be paid only after the acquisition proceedings are completed. The tenants are, however, being paid crop compensation annual-

4345 L.S.

ly till the acquisition proceedings are finalised and compensation for the land is paid to them.

Under Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition & Development) Act, 1957, 250 acres of tenancy land have been acquired for the Kedla Washery by Notification dated 22-12-1980. Assessment of compensation in respect of this area is in progress. Employment under the prescribed norms would be provided as and when the land is acquired.

The area proposed to be acquired for the project under the Coal Bearing Areas Act is 16,447.00 acres and under the land Acquisition Act is 1,326.26 acres.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. Compensation is paid on the basis of rates fixed by the State Government in respect of lands acquired under Land Acquisition Act. In regard to lands acquired under Coal Bearing Areas Act, compensation is determined and paid as per the provisions of the Act.

In regard to provision of jobs to land losers also, the company is following a uniform policy i.e. one employment is given for 3 acres of land acquired.

**Thermal Power Plant at Kanti in Bihar**

3916. **SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal to set up a thermal power plant at Kanti, District Muzaffarpur, Bihar;

(b) if so, when the thermal power plant at Kanti is likely to be set up; and

(c) the extent to which the power requirement from this power plant will be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir. A thermal power project at Mazaffarpur (Kanti) for installation of two units of 110 MW each was sanctioned in July, 1978.

(b) According to the present indications, one unit is expected to be commissioned in November, 1983 and another unit in May, 1984.

(c) The project when commissioned will generate 220 MW of Power.

समाचारपत्रों में पृष्ठ संख्या के आधार पर ]  
मूल्य व्यवस्था आरम्भ किया जाना

3917. श्री सुन्दर शर्मा : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने को कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बड़ समाचार-पत्र समूहों द्वारा कम कामत पर अपने समाचार पत्रों में अधिक पृष्ठ निकालने के परिणाम-स्वरूप छोटे और मझौले समाचार पत्रों पर पड़ने वाले दबाव को कम करने के उद्देश्य से समाचार-पत्रों की पृष्ठ संख्या के आधार पर मूल्य व्यवस्था आरम्भ करने के सुझाव पर सरकार ने विचार किया है; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो ऐसा कार्रवाई कब तक किये जाने की संभावना है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (कुमारी कुमुदबेन एम० जोशी) : (क) जो, नहीं। संवैधानिक तौर पर सरकार समाचार-पत्रों को अपनी कीमती निश्चित स्तर पर नियत करने के लिए विवश नहीं कर सकती।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

### Increase in price of Caustic Soda

3918. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the increase in the price of caustic soda during the last three years;

(b) whether Government consider that this is a fair and reasonable increase,

(c) if so, on what basis.

(d) whether Government propose to take steps to regulate the price of caustic soda; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) The manufacturers' ex-factory selling prices of caustic soda are fixed by them in the light of the recommendations made by the Alkali Manufacturers' Association of India (AMAI) from time to time. The Association recommends to its members the ceiling selling prices of caustic soda which the member units are requested not to exceed. The basic ex-factory ceiling selling prices recommended by the AMAI during the last three years for different varieties of caustic soda have been as under:

### Caustic Soda

(Rs./tonne.)

As on	Lye	Solid	Flakes
1-1-79	2050	2350	2450
1-1-80	2580	3180	3180
1-1-81	2730	3480	3480

These prices are exclusive of taxes and duties, packing charges and other incidentals. The open market price of caustic soda (solid and flakes) which ruled as high as Rs. 7000/- per tonne in 1979 and which was ruling at about