

The expenditure incurred in this connection is far less than the figures mentioned, and does not justify an inquiry into it.

USSR to help oil exploration

8119. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn towards a news item appearing in the "Patriot" dated 17th January 1981 under the caption U.S.S.R. to help oil exploration"; and

(b) what is the estimated expenditure to be incurred on exploration and what shall be the share of Soviet Union for the purpose, the areas of exploration and other details?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The negotiations with the USSR in the matter are going on. Hence the details would be available only after these negotiations are concluded.

Consumption of fuel by vehicles and Aircraft

8120. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA RATH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimate of total fuel (Petrol and diesel) consumption made by State Governments, Central Government and public sector undertakings during the last three years in the use of cars, jeeps, matadors, aircraft and other modes of transport at their disposal; and

(b) the above information for different categories of transport—cars, jeeps, matadors, aircraft etc. separately?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) and (b). The total consumption of High Speed Diesel Oil (HSD), Motor Spirit (Petrol) and Aviation Gasoline in the country is about 10 million tonnes, 1.5 million tonnes and 0.003 million tonnes respectively per annum. The consumption of petrol and HSD by the vehicles and aircraft employed by the Central Government, State Government and Public Sector Undertakings is governed by the budgetary provision made each year for the purchase of fuel. Collection of category-wise information of consumption of petrol and diesel by the Central and State Governments and Public Sector Undertakings during the last three years, will involve considerable time and labour, which may not be commensurate with the purpose proposed to be achieved.

Employment on casual basis against permanent vacancies in Farakka super thermal power project

8121. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recruitments have been made on casual basis against regular/permanent vacancies in the Workman/Field Assistant categories under National Super Thermal Power Project at Farakka.

(b) if so, the number of such casual labourers in these categories;

(c) whether it is a fact that the local employment exchange has been avoided in matters regarding certain recruitments in these categories;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government propose to absorb those who have been serving as casual labourers on daily wages

basis for a reasonable period of time against the post of permanent/regular nature in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) As in the case with many new Industrial undertakings at, the initial stage, recruitment on a casual basis has been resorted to at the Farakka Project of National Thermal Power Corporation also.

(b) 147.

(c) and (d). Under the Employment Exchange (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1957 and the directives of the Central Government issued thereunder, for recruitment on casual basis for duration of less than 90 days, vacancies are not required to be notified to and recruited through the local employment exchange.

(e) For the purpose of absorption in the permanent establishment as per recruitment rules and Government directives in this regard, preference is generally given to persons already serving on casual basis subject to their conduct and performance being found satisfactory.

Recruitment made in Farakka Super Thermal Power Project

8122. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the manpower budget for the workman category under the Farakka Super Thermal Power Project for the year 1980-81;

(b) whether recruitment has been made in such number as to cover the budget estimate;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of persons so recruited on the permanent/casual basis;

(e) the policy adopted in selecting them;

(f) whether the candidates belonging to the families, the lands of which have been acquired by the N.T.P.C., have been given priority in these recruitments, as assured earlier by the authority concerned; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) A total of 279 posts in workmen categories have been provided in the approved manpower budget for the year 1980-81.

(b) to (d). So far 150 posts have been filled up by appointing persons on regular/casual basis. Recruitment is being made on a continuous basis depending on the work load at the project site.

(e) Selection has been made in all the cases on the basis of NTPC's recruitment policy which provides for preference to be given to land oustees and local persons for recruitment to posts in the workmen categories subject to suitability.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) Names of the members of families for possible employment are registered on the basis of lists certified by the district authority. For any post in the workmen categories, persons other than land oustees are considered for appointment only after it is ascertained that suitable candidates are not available in the register of candidates belonging to families whose lands have been acquired for the project.

Production of Bulk Formulations Based on Imported Bulk Drugs

8123. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) how many foreign companies are still producing their drug formulations based on imported bulk drugs or bulk