

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) and (b). An application under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 was submitted on 12-1-1981 by Messrs premier Morarji Chemical Company Limited for the manufacture of new article Sulphuric with a capacity of 10,000 tonnes per annum at their existing industrial undertaking in District Alleppey in the State of Kerala. The application was, however, rejected as adequate capacity in the State had already been approved. Moreover, the capacity applied for was considered uneconomic. The Company has since submitted a representation against the *prima facie* rejection.

Exploratory Programme of O.N.G.C.

8953. SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has started a big exploratory programme both off-shore and on-shore for oil and natural gas in the Andamans and other places; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the prospects of the find being commercially viable?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Exploratory work in Andaman off-shore area is in progress and presently one well is under drilling.

(b) Geological surveys, photo geological work and shallow drilling for geological information in the onland sector have been carried out as well as seismic surveys in the off-shore area.

Two wells have been drilled in the off shore part so far, of which (AN-1-1) has given very encouraging indications of gas.

विश्व बैंक द्वारा आय के निर्धारित मानदण्डों की मध्य प्रदेश विद्युत बोर्ड द्वारा उपेक्षा

8954. श्री फूल चन्द वर्मा : क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विश्व बैंक द्वारा आय के निर्धारित मानदण्डों की मध्य प्रदेश विद्युत बोर्ड द्वारा निरन्तर उपेक्षा की जा रही है और केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा लगाए गए उत्पादन शुल्क का 50 प्रतिशत भाग विद्युत बोर्ड द्वारा नए भार के रूप में उपभोक्ता पर डाल दिया गया है और बोर्ड द्वारा विजली की दरें मनमाने ढंग से बढ़ाई जा रही हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस बारे में क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

ऊर्जा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विक्रम महाजन) : (क) और (ख) : मध्य प्रदेश विजली बोर्ड ने विश्व बैंक द्वारा निर्धारित मानदण्डों की उपेक्षा नहीं की है। विश्व बैंक ने, असेत पूंजी आधार पर राज्य विजली बोर्ड द्वारा अर्जित किये जाने वाले लाभ की 9.5 प्रतिशत न्यूनतम दर का मानदण्ड स्वीकार किया है। पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश विजली बोर्ड द्वारा अर्जित की गई लाभ की दर नीचे दिखाई गई है :

वर्ष	लाभ की दर
1977-78	14.7 प्रतिशत
1978-79	11.2 प्रतिशत
1979-80	13.4 प्रतिशत

भारत सरकार ने विद्युत् के उत्पादन पर मार्च, 1978 से उत्पाद शुल्क लगाया था। भारतीय माल अधिनियम 1980 की धारा 64(क) के अनुसार लगाये गये उत्पादन शुल्क के बराबर की राशि सप्लायर द्वारा उपभोक्ता से वसूल की जा सकती है। इस लिए इस बोर्ड ने अपने उपभोक्ताओं पर मार्च, 1978 से उत्पाद शुल्क के लिए प्रति यूनिट 2.5 पैसे की दर से अतिरिक्त प्रभार लगाया था जिसकी बाद में टैरिफ में शामिल कर लिया गया था।

बोर्ड ने 1-12-1980 से अपने टैरिफ में संशोधन कर दिया है जिससे उच्च वोल्टता उपभोक्ताओं के बिलों में औसतन लगभग 12 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हो जायेगी। कुल मिला कर मध्य प्रदेश बिजली बोर्ड का कार्य-निष्पादन अच्छा है तथा बोर्ड मनमाने ढंग से कीमतें नहीं बढ़ा रहा है।

Caprolactum Plant at Cochin

8955. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govt. has since taken a decision to establish a caprolactum plant at Cochin as a diversification of FACT;

(b) if so, the details of the decision; and

(c) when the decision will be actually implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Government have not yet taken a decision on the proposal of Fertilizers and Chemicals, Travancore Limited to establish a caprolactum plant at udyogamandal.

(b) and (c). The questions do not arise.

E.I.D. Parry (India) Limited, Madras

8956. SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the repercussions likely to follow the acute in-fighting presently going on in the Board of EID-Parry (India) Limited, Madras, a major group in South India having about 6000 employees and a turnover of Rs. 200 crores;

(b) whether Government are aware that the present situation is the result of the Chairman and Managing Director, having unearthed instances of serious irregularities and mismanagement committed before he took over and as a consequence the remaining Directors want to push him out;

(c) the reasons why financial institutions, IDBI, ICICI, LIC, etc. are not supporting the present Chairman and Managing Director, inspite of their having earlier persuaded him to accept this onerous responsibility; and

(d) what are the steps Government propose to take to prevent the company from becoming a sick unit and the employees losing their livelihood?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) Government are aware of the strong differences amongst the members of the Board of Directors of the company.

(b) and (c). The appointment of the present Chairman & Managing Director of the company was approved by the Central Government in consultation with the financial institutions with effect from 29-3-1980. The financial institutions had indicated to him that the streamlining and reorganisation of the company might be done by him after referring his proposals to the Board of Directors and taking them into confidence. It has, however, been reported that the Chairman & Managing Director did not take the Board into confidence in respect of some proposals like payment of bonus and follow-up action on the report of Internal