

it is being sold in black market at 3 to 4 times the controlled price; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to prevent this malpractice and whether Government also contemplate to associate local representatives to check this malady?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI):** (a) No, Sir. However, due to the difference in the retail selling prices of High Speed Diesel (HSD) oil and kerosene, the possibility of some adulteration of HSD with kerosene cannot be ruled out.

(b) Retail distribution of kerosene within a State is the responsibility of the State Government. The State Governments, including the Government of Orissa, have been advised to ensure equitable distribution of kerosene within the State, including the rural areas, so as to meet all the essential needs of the consumers within the allocations made by this Ministry. Kerosenes' sales during recent months in Orissa State have generally been more than the allocations. This Ministry is not aware of an acute shortage of kerosene in the fair price shops or about the sale of kerosene at higher prices in Orissa.

(c) The oil companies have intensified the check over the working of their diesel outlets. The attention of the State Government has been drawn to the possibility of adulteration of diesel with kerosene and they have been requested to draw up a detailed scheme for closely checking the delivery and sale of kerosene in order to ensure that the entire product supplied by the oil companies reaches the consumers for whom the same is meant. The State Level Coordinators of Oil Companies have been asked to get in touch with the State Governments and to extend all possible assistance to them in preventing the substitution or adulteration of HSD by kerosene. This Ministry has no proposal to associate local representatives to check such malpractices.

### **Thermal, Diesel, Hydel and Atomic Power Stations**

9048. **SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJ-PAYEE:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of thermal, diesel, hydel and atomic power station in the country alongwith their rated capacity and percentage of capacity utilisation for the current year and also in each of the last two years;

(b) if the load-factor in some power stations is below 80 per cent the reasons therefor in each case; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the situation?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN):** (a) A statement showing the names of the major thermal, hydel and nuclear power stations (with units of 20 MW and above), their installed capacity and plant load factor (capacity utilisation) for the years 1978-79, 1979-80 and 1980-81 is Laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No] LT-2458/81]. As diesel units are generally much smaller, their performance is not being regularly monitored individually.

(b) Capacity utilisation of hydro stations is not of much significance to compare and judge their performance as the generation from hydro stations is dependent upon the design potential and availability of water.

The plant load factor of all thermal and nuclear power stations in the country except 2 power stations was below 80 per cent during the year 1980-81. Capacity utilisation of thermal power stations depends on a number of factors like the age and condition of equipment system conditions, hydro-thermal system mix and load factor of the system, quality of fuel, longer stabilisation period in the newly commissioned units, ready availability of spares for maintenance etc. Excepting for the capacity taken out for planned maintenance and repairs because of forced outage, the remaining generating capacity is generally utilised for generation.

However, normally the load demand during night time is much less than the load demand during the day and therefore, the overall capacity utilisation comes down. The other causes for shortfall in utilisation of the generating capacity is the partial unavailability of auxiliary equipments due to some defects, etc. although the unit as a whole is available.

(c) A number of steps have been taken to improve the capacity utilisation of thermal power plants. These measures include:—

(i) assistance to the electricity boards to undertake plant betterment programmes and better preventive maintenance schedule;

(ii) identification of deficiencies in plant and equipments and taking up programme of their rectification and replacement;

(iii) arranging timely supply of spare parts from indigenous and foreign suppliers;

(iv) supply of adequate quantity of coal of right quality. Defaulting collieries are being identified and the representatives of the power stations posted there for joint sampling. Coal companies have been requested to intensify handpicking of stones, shales and other extraneous materials so as to improve the quality. Coal companies have also been advised to instal portable/permanent crushers at mines and undertake appropriate coal beneficiation programmes;

(v) undertaking training programmes for engineers and technical personnel entrusted with the operation and maintenance of power stations.

#### **Extracting of Gas by Bangladesh near Tripura**

9049. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bangladesh is extracting natural gas from some drilling points close to Tripura borders opposite Rokhia;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Chief Minister of Tripura drew the Centre's attention to this; and

(c) if so, actions taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) to (c). Information is being collected, and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### **Public Deposits in Non-Banking and Non-Financial Companies**

9050. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of public deposits in non-banking and non-financial companies;

(b) the amount lying with the public companies; and

(c) the amounts lying with the private companies?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS: (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) The Reserve Bank of India periodically compiles and publishes data about the deposits held by various categories of Companies including non banking non-financial companies, acceptance of the posits by which is regulated by this Department. According to the information furnished by Reserve Bank of India, the total amount of public deposits held by non-financial companies as on 31-3-1978 was Rs. 685.5 crores;

(b) Rs. 641.8 crores.

(c) Rs. 43.7 crores.

#### **Fixation of World Price of Crude Oil**

9051. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) recently held intensive discussions on