

Payment of Royalties to Oil Producing States

366. SHRI MOHAN LAL PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the rate of royalty being paid to oil producing states on oil;

(b) whether these States have requested for increasing the royalty; and

(c) if so, by how much and the action taken by Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) The royalty on crude oil and casing head condensate has been fixed at Rs. 61 per tonne w.e.f. 1st April, 1981.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) While no specific amount has been indicated by the Gujarat Government, the Assam Government have asked for a royalty of Rs. 400 per tonne. The oilfields (Regulation & Development) Act, 1948 under which royalty is fixed provides for revision once in four years. However, the matter is under examination.

Production at Haldia Fertilizer Plant

367. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after the completion of the mechanical erection work at the Haldia Fertilizer Complex, more than a year ago, some major units are yet to be commissioned;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the project is likely to produce annually only 15 to 20 per cent of its anticipated turn-over; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, together with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI

DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes Sir. The project could not be commissioned due to non-availability of the required power from the West Bengal State Electricity Board.

(b) No Sir.

(c) The question does not arise.

Top Positions in Central Electricity Authority

368. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain top position in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) have been going abegging;

(b) if so, details thereof stating the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) to (c). The posts of Member (Thermal) and Member (Planning) have been vacant from 1st February, 1980 and 7th April, 1979, respectively. A candidate was earlier selected for the post of Member (Thermal) and order of his appointment was also issued. The candidate, however, declined to join the post. Since then, further efforts have been made to select a suitable candidate for this post. The proposal is under advanced stage of finalisation.

Similar efforts have been made for finding a suitable candidate for the post of Member (Planning) also. Certain names have since been received and the selection process is in progress.

Hydro-Power Project delayed due to Inter-State Disputes on Sharing of Power

369. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH;

SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA;

SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN:

SHRI CHHOTAY SINGH
YADAV:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE
SHARMA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that implementation of a number of Hydro-power projects has been delayed because of the Inter-State disputes on sharing of power; and

(b) the estimated rise in the cost of the projects anticipated and the steps taken by the Government to resolve the Inter-State disputes on sharing of power to ensure expeditious implementation of these projects to avoid further escalation in cost?

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

(b) This varies from project to project. The Central Government has taken the initiative in holding discussions with the concerned states with a view to resolving the disputes. It has also offered to take up such projects in the Central Sector, as a possible solution to the disputes.

Televising Asian Games in colour

370. SHRI N. E. HORO:

SHRI JAI NARAIN ROAT:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for televising the Asian Games to be held in 1982 in colour T.V. four out-door broadcasting and television vans will be purchased; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the plan of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. 4 colour O.B. Vans and some additional colour equipment is being procured for providing limited colour

coverage of Asian Games to foreign broadcasting organisations. This will enable Doordarshan to provide both live telecast via satellite and programme capsules in colour common for all organisations.

Performance of Telephones in Delhi

371. SHRI N. E. RORO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are satisfied with the performance of Telephones in the Capital;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Posts and Telegraphs Department are proposing to spend Rs. 30 crores to provide concrete ducts for the telephone cables of Delhi to protect them from monsoon damage; and

(c) if so, the details regarding the policy and programme of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICA-
TIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON):

(a) The network efficiency of Delhi Telephones is not upto the desired level. Steps are being taken to improve the performance.

(b) Cable duct scheme covering 34.39 route kilometers with estimated cost of Rs. 4.36 crores has been sanctioned. This will protect the new cables which will be drawn through ducts.

(c) The policy of the Department is to provide ducts on all major junction routes in multi-exchange systems. The 'primary' cables falling en-route will also be laid in ducts.

State Electricity Boards

372. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government are satisfied with the functioning of the Electricity Boards in the States; and