

Unsold stock of imported Soda Ash

2678. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present value of unsold stock of soda ash imported by State Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Corporation;

(b) did Government issue advertisements asking tenders for the sale of this stock;

(c) when and how many times such advertisements were issued;

(d) how many tenders were received and what was the price per tonne offered;

(e) what action has CPC taken against each of these tenders;

(f) has any deal been finalised; and

(g) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) Rs. 1.86 crores.

(b) The State Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Corporation of India (now Chemical Division of State Trading Corporation of India) has issued Press Advertisements asking for tenders for sale of soda ash imported by it.

(c) Two Advertisements were issued. One in November, 1981 and the other in the 2nd week of July, 1982.

(d) Nine offers were received in response to the Advertisement issued in November, 1981. The prices offered were in the range of Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000 per tonne. The offer of Rs. 2,000 per tonne was for a quantity of 30 tonnes only.

(e) No action was taken as the prices offered were not acceptable.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Prices offered were not acceptable.

Gas Connections in Gujarat

2679. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of gas connection applicants registered as on 31st December, 1980 in Gujarat State;

(b) the number of gas connections released during the year 1981;

(c) the number of gas connections registered during the year 1981;

(d) the number of pending cases as on 31st December, 1981; and

(e) the action being taken to give gas connections to those on the waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) The total number of applicants registered in the State of Gujarat for cooking gas (LPG) connections was about 1,36,827 as on 31-12-1980.

(b) About 22,764 LPG (cooking gas) connections were released in the State during 1981.

(c) The number of applicants registered during the year 1981, is approximately 2,29,200.

(d) A total number of 3,43,262 applicants were on the waiting list in the State as on 31-12-1981.

(e) The waiting lists for LPG connections are being cleared in a phased manner. According to the Industry Enrolment Plan 1,32,000 LPG connections are to be released in the State during 1982-83.

Sarin Committee Report

2680. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken on Sarin Committee Report;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and when the decision will be taken;

(c) whether opinions and views of the various sections of the people have been sought before taking the decision; and

(d) if so, who are the persons or organisations who have sent their views?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). The Committee on Telecommunications has made a total of 434 (Plus 3 Sub-parts—437) recommendations. Out of these implementation actions have been taken on 219 recommendations; 25 recommendations have not been accepted; 28 recommendations are still under consideration of the Government. Other cases are being processed for implementation.

(c) and (d). Opinions and views on these recommendations have been obtained from two Federations of the Staff Unions and the Consultative Committee of the Parliament attached to this Ministry.

धनबाद और झरिया कोयला खानों में कोयले की उपलब्धता में कमी

2681. श्री राजनाथ सोनकर शास्त्री : क्या उर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या धनबाद और झरिया (बिहार) कोयला क्षेत्रों में कोयले की उपलब्धता काफी कम हो गई है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इन खानों में भविष्य में कितनी अर्वाधि के लिए कोयला उपलब्ध होगा और इन खानों में कोयले की कम उपलब्धता के कारण कोयले की कमी को दूर करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या उपाय किए जा रहे हैं ?

उर्जा मंत्रालय के कोयला विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री गार्गी शंकर मिश्र) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Dumping of Synthetic Rubber

2682. SHRI K. T. KOSALRAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that large scale dumping of synthetic rubber from abroad has led to near sickness of the only indigenous manufacturer of synthetic rubber in the country—M/s Synthetic Chemicals Ltd.; and

(b) if so, the action taken to halt the dumping of synthetic rubber from abroad?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) M/s. Synthetics and Chemicals Ltd., one of the two manufacturers of synthetic rubber in the country has represented that overseas exporters are offering styrene butadiene rubber (SBR) at virtually throw-away prices to Indian consumers who are switching over to imported SBR; and that the sale of its SBR has thereby been adversely affected.

(b) Examination of the representation has been taken in hand.

Revamping of State Electricity Boards

2683. SHRI D. S. A. SIVAPRAKASHAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the State Electricity Boards have been directed to revamp their functioning so as to be on a financially sound footing;

(b) if so, the details of the directions given;

(c) what guarantee is there that these directions would be carried out by the Electricity Board;

(d) are Government aware that many State Electricity Boards have no sound system of management resulting in surplus stock; and