

(c) M/s. Pfizer have made an application for fixation of Price for Protinex under Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1979. The proposal is under consideration.

Number of Bidi workers

3472. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state the number of bidi labour force in the country, State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMA VIR): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The approximate number of bidi workers (including Gharkhata) in different States

	(in lakhs)
1. Andhra Pradesh	2.50
2. Bihar	3.50
3. Gujarat	0.12
4. Karnataka	3.00
5. Kerala	1.50
6. Madhya Pradesh	5.00
7. Maharashtra	2.50
8. Orissa	1.60
9. Rajasthan	0.22
10. Tamil Nadu	2.00
11. Uttar Pradesh	4.50
12. West Bengal	4.50

Supply of Power from Singrauli

3473. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR
SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)

has not been able to execute commercial agreements with the beneficiary States with regard to the supply of power from Singrauli and that the World Bank which has financed a substantial part of the Singrauli Project has been pressing Government for such an agreement;

(b) whether it is also a fact that huge arrears amounting to crores of rupees are due to the NTPC from the beneficiary States for the power supplied from Singrauli and Badarpur Thermal Power Stations;

(c) if so, details thereof stating the reasons for not executing commercial agreement with the beneficiary States and the reasons for the non-clearance of the mounting arrears on account of the power supplied by NTPC; and

(d) if the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) to (d). As per the terms concluded with the World Bank for financing the Singrauli Super Thermal Power Project, the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is required to enter into commercial agreements the beneficiary State Electricity Boards, to whom power would be supplied from the project. Discussions are in progress in this regard. The State Electricity Boards have raised some issues regarding the fixation of tariff and other related matters. This being the first Agreement, it will take some time before these issues can be satisfactorily resolved. In the meantime, billing is being done on the basis of an interim tariff.

As at the end of September, 1982, an amount of Rs. 104.68 crores was outstanding from the various States to whom power had been supplied from Badarpur Thermal Power Station. In the case of Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station, an amount of Rs. 18.60 crores had been billed upto end of September, 1982. The UP State Electricity Board (UPSEB) has released a payment of Rs. 6.5 crores.

In the case of Badarpur Thermal Power Station, out of the total outstanding amount

of Rs. 104.68 crores, an amount of Rs. 89.44 crores is outstanding from DESU. DESU has some problems in repaying the amount due to its tight financial position. Efforts are being made for early settlement of the dues. The outstandings from the other State Electricity Boards are comparatively less and the respective State have been requested to release the payments.

Import of Thio Thamine by M/s. Chemicals & Aromatics Ltd.

3474. SHRI CHANDRABHAL MANI TEWARI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the quantity applied for and sanctioned for import of Thio Thamine to M/s. Chemicals and Aromatics Private Limited since reservation of manufacture of Vitamin B, for Public sector units;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have allowed them import of excess quantity of Vitamin B than that allowed to them in the past; and

(c) what are the steps taken by Government to meet the genuine needs of other small scale units for Thio Thamine?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c) M/s. Chemicals and Aeromatics Pvt. Ltd. were permitted to manufacture Vitamin B1 (Hcl & Mono) since 1st November 1977 i.e. before the announcement of the new Drug Policy in March 1978 when production of Vitamin B1 was reserved for the public sector.

Following a ban on the import of Thio Thamine under the Import Policy for 1980-81 M/s. Chemicals and Aromatics applied for import of Thio Thamine to meet their requirements for production of Vitamin B1. M/s. Chemicals and Aeromatics have so far been granted two supplementary licences for import of Thio Thamine as detailed below:

Licences	Value
	Rs.
1. P/S/1445777 dated 4-7-1981	38,09,691.00
2. P/S/1949098 dated 27-5-1982	40,54,500.00

They have not been allowed to import Vitamin B1. They have agreed to supply their entire production of Vitamin B1 from Thio Thamine against the allocation orders of the canalising agency (State Trading Corporation) at the Government fixed price.

As M/s. IDPL in the Public Sector are producing Vitamin B1, and are expecting to make it in sufficient quantities, no imports of Thiothiamine are being considered at present.

Plan to step up power generation in Gujarat

3475. SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Centre had sanctioned a plan to step up power generation in Gujarat;

(b) the details of power generation projects to be undertaken by the State;

(c) what are the proposals of the State Government for power generation schemes pending with the Centre;

(d) the availability of power when these projects are completed; and

(e) the assistance proposed to be given by the Centre for improving the power situation in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). The following power generation schemes have