

position has shown some improvement during the preceding two years.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Natural Gas Pipelines from Hazira to Jagdishpur

3038. SHRI DIGAMBER SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any financial package to implement the 1700 k.m. national gas pipeline from Hazira to Jagdishpur is in the offing ;

(b) if so, the financing pattern thereof ;

(c) the anticipated capital outlay involved and the estimated range of foreign exchange component ;

(d) the utility of this project ;

(e) which of the countries have shown interest in financing and executing this project ;

(f) the amount offered by each country, interest rate and repayment terms ;

(g) whether the World Bank too is being approached for a loan ; and

(h) whether any global tender has been floated for this project and whether it will be given to a consortium of companies for execution or divided into phases ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (h). The 1700 k.m. gas pipeline from Hazira to Jagdishpur will carry feedstock and fuel to the six-gas based fertilizer projects, which are to be set up in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The pipeline is estimated to cost Rs. 1700.17 crores, inclusive of a foreign exchange component of Rs. 680.35 crores.

The project will be financed from internal resources, as well as external funding as may be advisable.

The Netherlands is providing a grant of

Rs. 1.13 crores towards back-up consultancy. Japan has offered Yen 55 billion (about Rs. 250 crores) under OECF assistance (interest rate of 3.25 per cent per annum and repayable in 30 years with a grace period of 10 years) for the procurement of line pipes and pipe laying in the Hazira-Bijaipur portion. The World Bank has also been approached for assistance for this project. Other countries which have evinced interest in financing the project are FRG, Canada, France and Italy. The quantum and detailed terms and conditions of such credits will only become known when firm offers are actually received and negotiated. The decisions in this regard would also depend upon the source of imports, as determined by tender evaluation.

Global tenders have been floated for supply of line pipes and line pipe materials, and for the construction of the pipeline. The decision as to whether the project would be implemented by a consortium of companies or in segments would depend upon the bids received against the tenders.

Curbs on Oswal Woollen Mills Limited, Ludhiana

3039. SHRI R.N. RAKESH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that curbs have been placed on Oswal Woollen Mills, Ltd., Ludhiana on the involvement of this firm and its associates in illegal imports of beef tallow, if so, details thereof ;

(b) whether this follows representation from some MPs if so, details thereof ; and

(c) whether any fine has been levied on the firm and if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SUPPLY (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) In connection with prima facie unauthorised import of beef tallow during July-August, 1983, M/s. Oswal Woollen Mills Ltd., Ludhiana was placed under abeyance on