

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): In regard to petroleum refining, it is the Government's policy to promote future projects only in the public sector, unless expansion of the private sector is warranted by considerations of public interest being served.

In regard to chemical industries, it has been decided—as a part of general policy—to consider cases for fuller utilization of capacity in specified fields. Generally seeking, a long-term view of product requirements is taken while considering establishment of new capacity and, in certain cases, licensing of capacity is not restricted by demand constraints.

Petro-Chemicals Projects to be completed in the near future

2774. **SHRI K. MALLANNA:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM and CHEMICALS be pleased to state the names of Petro-Chemical Projects likely to be completed in the near future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): In the public sector, the Gujarat Aromatics Project, which will produce DMT, Ortho-Xylene and Mixed Xylenes, is expected to go on stream during the next few months. The major projects likely to be completed in the private sector in the current year are three synthetic fibre plants. In 1973, another two synthetic fibre projects and one Caprolactam Project are expected to go on stream.

Introduction of teller system in Nationalised Banks to over-come Delays in encashment of Cheques

2775. **SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it takes unduly a long time to encash cheques in the nationalised banks;

(b) whether any survey has been made to find out the average time taken for encashing cheques in different Nationalised banks; and

(c) whether Government have considered the desirability of introducing 'Teller System' in all the Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c). No Survey has been conducted to find out the average time taken for encashing cheques in the nationalised or other banks. Banks are constantly endeavouring to reduce the waiting time of the Customers at the counter and as a step in this direction, some of the nationalised banks have already introduced the 'Teller System' at certain important branches. The recommendation of the Banking Commission in this regard for introduction of the 'Teller System' in all banks at all important branches is under Government's active consideration.

Purbanchal Bank

2776. **SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new institution named Purbanchal Bank would be set up at Gauhati to take effectively to the needs of the whole north eastern region;

(b) if so, total population to be served thereby; and

(c) its effect on the economy of the Purbanchal region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c). The Purbanchal Bank Ltd. started functioning from the 3rd July, 1972. It would cater to the banking needs of the eastern region comprising the territories of Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura; Manipur, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh having total population of 195.82 lakhs according to the 1971 census.

Solution of dispute in Avadi Factory, Madras

2777. **SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister, Tamil Nadu, has offered his services to the Union Minister of Defence Production to help solve Avadi Factory dispute; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?