

Tata's Fertilizers Project at Mithapur

1124. SHRI RAMKANWAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the anticipated capacity of Tata's Mithapur project for manufacture of fertilizers; and

(b) the extent to which it will reduce the country's dependence on imported fertilizers and the foreign exchange which the country is consequently likely to save?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The Mithapur Fertilizer Project envisages a capacity of 160,000 tonnes per annum of nitrogen. The foreign exchange saving, at current prices, will be about Rs. 20 crores per annum for importing an equivalent quantity of fertilizers, when the plant is in production at full rated capacity.

Supply of Cylinders for cooking gas to Madras refinery by I.O.C.

1125. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation has failed to place adequate number of cylinders with Madras Refinery for cooking gas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to supply the required number of cylinders to the Refinery?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). No, Sir. The effective utilisation of cylinders at Madras has, however, been hindered for various reasons during the last few months, such as, breaches and

dislocation in communications, disruption of rail services etc. The position has since improved.

Failure of Measures taken by Government to reduce the number of pending cases in High Courts

1126. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the measures so far taken by Government to reduce the arrears of cases in the High Court have not led to any appreciable reduction in the number of pending cases; and

(b) if so, what further steps Government propose to take in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) It is true that in some High Courts the arrears have increased as compared to the previous years. The institutions in most of the High Courts have also been on the increase and the disposals could not keep pace with the institutions.

(b) The state authorities have been advised to undertake a further review of the judge strength in the light of the current institutions and disposals and the arrears to be cleared.

A Committee of Judges under the Chairmanship of Shri Justice J. C. Shah has submitted a report on the problem of arrears in the High Courts. The Committee has made a number of recommendations for reducing arrears and for minimising delays in dispensing justice. The recommendations of the Committee which are purely of administrative nature and which do not require amendment to the rule, statute or law have been communicated to the State Governments and High Courts for implemen-

tation. The recommendations involving amendments to the statute or law are being examined and decisions will be taken after ascertaining the views of the Judges of the High Court and the Supreme Court and the State Governments.

The Law Commission has suggested certain specific amendments to the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, in its report with a view to eliminating or minimising delays in civil litigation and thereby reducing costs. The suggestions are under examination. The reconstituted Law Commission has also been requested to go into the question of further amendments to the Civil Procedure Code and the Commission have recently submitted their report which is under examination.

The Law Commission has also made a number of recommendations for the amendment of the procedural law in criminal matters. Most of them have been accepted by Government and a Bill for the revision of the Code of Criminal Procedure is now before Lok Sabha after it has been passed by the Rajya Sabha.

Oil Exploration in West Bengal

1127. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh-possibilities have been found in West Bengal for oil exploration; and

(b) if so, where?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). No fresh possibilities have been found for exploration drilling being undertaken immediately. However, Oil Exploration in the form of seismic surveys is being carried out intensively by the Commission in the areas of Bakultala,

Galsi, Diamond Harbour and Budge Budge-in-West Bengal in order to locate structures favourable for drilling.

Complaint regarding Land Acquisition for Soda Ash Plant in North Kanara District

1128. SHRI B. V. NAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received by the Central Government about the land acquisition by the Mysore Industrial Development Corporation for Soda Ash plant in North Kanara, Mysore; and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir. No soda ash plant has been approved for being set up in Mysore State so far.

(b) Does not arise.

Comparative Cost Studies of Haulage of Goods by Road and Rail

1129. SHRI B. V. NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether comparative cost studies of haulage of goods by road and Rail have been done in this country:

(b) whether Rail freights of goods are based on the basis of comparable costs; and

(c) if not, why not?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Studies on cost of movement of goods by rail have been conducted by the Ministry of Railways. No systematic data of cost of haulage of goods by road is available. However, an *ad hoc* study