

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) if not, when a decision in the matter is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) By the end of this year.

**Supply of Imported Raw Materials by S.T.C. to Drug Industry at Higher Prices**

245. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether imported raw materials are being supplied by the S.T.C. to the Drug Industry at considerably higher prices;

(b) whether this has resulted in the non-utilisation of its capacity to a large extent; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to make the raw materials available to the Industry at reasonable prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir. The sale price for distribution of goods to actual users is determined in accordance with a formula approved by Chief Controller of Imports and Exports in pursuance of paras 74 and 75 of Volume I of Import Trade Control Policy for the year 1973-74.

(b) No case of non-utilisation of capacity due to higher prices charged by S.T.C. has been reported to the Government.

(c) Does not arise.

**Solution of Cauvery Waters Dispute**

246. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA:

SHRI D. B. CHANDRA  
GOWDA:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any solution of the Cauvery Waters dispute has since been found; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The matter is still under discussion with the concerned States.

**Delay in Execution of Work relating to Off-Shore Drilling**

247. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA:

SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been considerable delay in the execution of work relating to the off-shore drilling;

(b) whether Government have suffered huge losses on this account; and if so, the total loss suffered till date; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to accelerate the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The delay was mainly due to two reasons, namely, six months' delay in the delivery of the "Sagar Samrat" and bad weather conditions in the Bombay-High area, shortly after the arrival of "Sagar Samrat".

However, Government have not suffered any avoidable loss since liquidated damages have been collected from the suppliers of "Sagar Samrat" for the delay in its delivery. The delay due to bad weather conditions was beyond the control of the ONGC. ONGC had to incur certain expenditure during the period of the delay and this expenditure amounted to \$7000 per day as payment to Drilling Contractor and for supply boats and crew boat. 20 per cent of the expenditure was, however, in Rupees.

(c) Drilling of the first exploratory well in the deeper waters with the aid of this platform has already commenced on the 11th October, 1973. The Commission has, moreover, prepared a plan of offshore drilling operations for the next two or three years

#### Power cut in U.P.

248. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what further steps have been taken to restore power cut in U.P.;

(b) whether the request of the U.P. Government to import two generators for Obra Power Station has been agreed to by the Centre; and

(c) if so, whether this is being imported by the B.H.E.L. Hardwar, and when the sets are likely to reach India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) In order to assist Uttar Pradesh to mitigate the power shortage in the State, neighbouring states have agreed to supply power to the extent of 150 MW to U.P. The commissioning of additional generating sets in the Obra Thermal Power Station is also being expedited as much as possible.

(b) and (c). Import of two generating sets for the Obra Power Station has been approved. The Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board has been advised to arrange for the import through M/s. BHEL. Arrangements in this regard are being finalised between the U.P.S.E.B. and BHEL.

#### Restoration of Power cut in States

249. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:

SHRI S. N. MISRA:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what further steps have been taken to restore power cut in the various States; and

(b) whether the power position has improved; and if so, to what extent?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). With the onset of monsoon and hydro reservoirs getting filled up, the power supply position in the various States has generally improved. However, the energy availability is not adequate in the States of U.P., Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and D.V.C. area where restrictions are still in force. In the case of D.V.C., owing to the outage of the units in the thermal power stations, there has been short supply in the area.

Steps have been taken to expedite repair of the generating sets and bring them into service expeditiously and action has been taken to expedite commissioning of the generating units which are under construction.

The extent of improvement in energy availability since May last is shown in the attached statement.