

producing nations was held at Geneva on the 7th April, 1974 to decide on giving cheap loan to developing countries hit by increased oil price;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof with particular interest of our country; and

(c) reaction of Government in this regard?

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

(b) and (c). The meeting of the World's major oil producing nations in Geneva accepted in principle the need for the establishment of a fund to help developing countries. No specific conclusion in this regard was, however, reached at this meeting.

Workers rendered jobless due to non-supply of raw material to Plastic Moulders in Delhi

9289. **SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that more than 1000 workers in the Plastic moulders trade in the Capital have been without work for the last one month because of non-availability of raw material;

(b) whether the raw material had been deliberately withheld to create artificial scarcity and high prices; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have proposed to ensure that raw material is made available to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c). This Ministry has no information in this regard.

The plastic processing industry is largely in the small scale sector. Plastic processing units are facing difficulties in procurement of plastic resins because the indigenous production has not kept pace with the demand and imports are at a low level. The position has been aggravated due to scarcity of plastic resins and their high prices in the world market.

Efforts are being made to increase indigenous production and make imports to the extent possible.

Modification of Boilers of Fuel-based Thermal Stations (Barauni)

9290. **SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI:** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have proposed to modify the boilers at a number of fuel-based thermal stations (Barauni) and to make them suitable for coal firing and providing them with additional facilities for coal and ash handling; and

(b) if so, the amount of money sanctioned for this purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The following units are proposed to be converted into coal fired ones including the units in the power station at Barauni:—

Name of Power Station.	Installed capacity of units to be converted.	
Barauni (Bihar)	2 × 15MV 2 × 50MV	} 130MV
Ahmedabad (Gujarat)	4 × 15MV 2 × 30MV	
Trembay (Maharashtra)	2 × 62.5MV	} 125MV
Dhruvaran (Gujarat)	4 × 63.5MV	
		254MV