

Chlorpropamide

M/s. Pfizer Limited, Bombay have been granted letter of intent No. 1 (36)/89-Chem. III dated the 16th November, 1972 for effecting substantial expansion for the manufacture of Chlorpropamide from 1.5 tonnes per annum to 6.5 tonnes per annum. The letter of intent contains the condition that 30 per cent of the additional capacity allowed will be exported and an export bond executed. Their production during the last three years was as under:—

1971	.	.	10.97 tonnes
1972	.	.	12.9 tonnes
1973	.	.	9.079 tonnes

(c) and (d).

Tetracycline

No export bond has so far been executed by M/s. Pfizer Ltd. Instructions have, however, been issued recently to them to execute an export bond valid upto 1978 extendable by 3 years at the option of Govt.

Chloropropamide

The legal undertaking submitted by the party dated the 26th February, 1974 to give effect to the export obligation has been accepted vide communication received from CCI&E dated the 14th March, 1974.

Construction of Santaldih Thermal Power Station in West Bengal

9315. SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the main features of the work done and the money spent for the construction of 120 M.W. unit of power generation at Santaldih

Thermal Power Station in Purulia (West Bengal);

(b) whether this project will be completed in scheduled time; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c). The project for constructing a thermal station at Santaldih in West Bengal envisages installation of four units of 120 MW each. The commissioning of the units, however, could not be completed on schedule for several reasons like non-availability of essential materials, some items of equipment etc. The first unit was commissioned in October 1973. The second unit, scheduled to be commissioned by December, 1974, is now expected to be commissioned during the early part of 1975. The third and fourth units originally scheduled to be commissioned in December, 1975 and October, 1976 are now expected to be commissioned in June, 1976 and December, 1976, respectively. Various items of works connected with these units are at different stages. The total expenditure incurred on the project upto the end of March, 1974 is reported to be about Rs. 50.51 crores.

Plastic Producing Units and Supply of Raw Materials to them

9316. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) total number of units producing plastic and allied materials in the country, State-wise;

(b) how many of those units are (1) large, (2) medium and (3) small;

(c) quantity and value of each category of raw material needed for the plastic and allied industries

imported, year-wise during the last three years;

(d) quantity and value of raw materials produced indigenously; and

(e) quantity and value of each category of raw material supplied to (1) large, (2) medium and (3) small units, year-wise, during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNA-WAZ KHAN): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid down on the Table of the House.

Shortage of Soda Ash in Small Scale Sector

9317. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the 'Soda Ash' an essential industrial raw material is not available in the open market while it is available in black market; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to make it available to the genuine users and small scale sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNA WAZ KHAN): (a) Question of a black market in soda ash does not arise as neither the price nor the distribution of this commodity is controlled.

(b) The soda ash manufacturers have been advised to make supplies direct to their established actual users on the basis of the best offtake in the last three years. Besides, imported soda ash is available to all actual users under the canalised im-

port policy. To make the country self-sufficient in soda ash, adequate further capacity has been approved so that together with the capacity installed, it totals 13.90 lakh tonnes/year as against the production target of about 9 lakh tonnes by the year 1978-79.

Railways inability to move stocks to Steel Plants

9318. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether authorities of the Bharat Coking Coal have alleged that its production is improving, but the Railways are not able to move the stocks promptly to the Steel Plants; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Detention of Puri Express and Utkal Express by Hooligans at Balasore

9319. SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Puri Express was detained on the 6th April night at Balasore by hooligans as a result of which the train was late by 5 hours and whether Utkal Express was also detained; and

(b) whether smugglers are regularly smuggling rice from Orissa to West Bengal by these trains?