

is based on alcohol, is statutorily controlled under an Order issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. No case of hoarding, black-marketing, and adulteration of Synthetic Rubber has come to the knowledge of Government during the years 1972 and 1973. In the case of petroleum products, the prices of Superior Kerosene and Light Diesel Oil are controlled by Orders issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The State Governments have been delegated powers to deal with offences under these Orders and information regarding the number of prosecutions launched and the punishment awarded is not available with the Central Government.

#### **Import of Petrol, Diesel and Crude Oil**

3619. SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the quantity of petrol, diesel and crude that had to be imported by India during the last two years upto the end of February, 1974 ;

(b) how much of it is expected to be received from (i) Iran (ii) Arab countries (iii) Soviet Russia (iv) Yugoslavia and (v) other countries and at what prices ; and

(c) what quantity of petrol is expected to be extracted from coal indigenously during 1974-75 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Petrol is not imported.

The import of crude oil for the past two years is as indicated below :

Year	Quantity in Million Tonnes
1972	12.31
1973	13.38 (provisional)

It is not in the public interest to disclose the quantity of diesel, imported during the last two years.

(b) It is not possible at this stage to indicate precisely how much crude, if any, will be imported and at what price from each of the countries mentioned in the question.

(c) On the basis of the exploratory studies made so far by the National Committee on Science and Technology and the Planning Commission, it has been decided to set up a group to make feasibility study for establishing a plant for the manufacture of oil from coal. Till the report becomes available, it is not possible to work out the details regarding the quantity of oil expected to be extracted from coal indigenously. However, no production would appear possible in 1974-75.

#### **Shifting of location of Thermal Plant from Dalkhola to Murshidabad**

3620. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN :

SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA :

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

(a) whether Government propose to shift the location of a proposed thermal plant from Dalkhola in West Dinajpur to Murshidabad ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b). The proposal for installation of a thermal power station in the Central Sector has been modified to locate it at Farakka in Murshidabad District instead of at Dalkhola as the former site has advantages of shorter haulage of coal and abundant supplies of cooling water. The question of establishing a thermal power station at Dalkhola is under consideration of the State Government.