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Petroleum Products for Agriculture and Industries

1288 SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state;

(a) whether steps have been taken by Government to ensure that the stock of petroleum products is maintained adequately to meet the needs of the core sector like agriculture, industry and transport for the next year;

(b) to what extent the needs for petroleum products is at present being met through our internal production; and

(c) what are the projections for increasing production during the next three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI) (a) All efforts are being continued to maintain adequate stocks of petroleum products to meet the essential demand, particularly, of the core sectors

(b) At present, nearly 2/3rds of the requirements of crude oil of the country are being met through imports and 1/3rd through internal production. Besides, such refined petroleum products in which the country is deficit are also imported to meet the current demands

(c) It is estimated that by 1978-79, indigenous production of crude oil will increase to about 14.08 million tonnes, against the present level of about 8.35 million tonnes.

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Production of Soap of Janata Variety

1289 SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Indian Standards Institution is currently engaged in prescribing ISI specifications for Janata variety of toilet soap;

(b) whether as a result of negotiations with the Indian Soap and Toiletory Makers Association, the import of tallow except for marginal quantities, has been discontinued thereby saving some amount in foreign exchange, and

(c) if so whether any proper substitute for tallow has been found out and properly examined to see that it does not contain any ingredient to harm the skin?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI C P MAJHI)

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) Yes, Sir, the import of tallow has been discontinued for the organised sector of the soap industry, except on REP licences.

(c) To substitute tallow the soap industry is increasingly taking to the use of minor oils after due processing. So far no report has been received about such soap having any harmful effect on the skin.

Supply of Furnace Oil and Diesel Oil to Punjab

1290 SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of furnace oil, diesel and kerosene oil supplied to Punjab during the last six months, and

(b) whether there has been any increase in the supply of these items as