

implemented for setting up of Medicinal Plants Gardens and development of Agro-Techniques for growing of medicinal plants. This would help in promotion, conservation and development of Medicinal Herbs.

(c) Pharmacopoeial Standards are being formulated for single drugs and compound formulations of Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha & Homoeopathy.

Expansion of NTPC Power Plant, Talcher Phase-II

952. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation Power Plant Talcher Phase-II is being expanded with external assistance and also in collaboration with the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited and foreign multinational companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the project would be expanded?

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is setting up Talcher Thermal Power Plant Phase II of 2000 MW (4x500 MW) at Kaniha in Angul district of Orissa. The project is proposed to be funded with debt equity ratio of 70:30. The equity portion would be met through internal resources of NTPC while debt portion is proposed to be financed through domestic borrowings and foreign currency loan. The major package would be awarded through International Competitive Bidding and hence no collaboration with either Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited or any foreign multinational companies is envisaged for implementation of the project.

(c) The synchronisation of the units of the project is envisaged as follows:

Unit I	June, 2003
Unit II	March, 2004
Unit III	December, 2004
Unit IV	September, 2005

[Translation]

Setting up of Petrol Pumps in Madhya Pradesh

953. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up petrol pumps at Chitrakut, Mazagaon, Birsinghpur, Jaitware in Satna district of Madhya Pradesh in view of the increasing number of tractors and vehicles in the district and demand from the local people of the area; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Retail outlet dealerships are opened at the feasible locations meeting Oil Industry's 'Volume-distance norms'. At Jaitware, one retail outlet is already in operation. Location Chitrakoot has been included in the marketing plan for setting up retail outlet dealership. The remaining two locations viz. Mazagaon and Birsinghpur have not been found feasible for setting up retail outlet dealership.

[English]

Contracting AIDS

954. SHRI C.D. GAMIT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether reports have been received that patients who under-went dialysis have contracted the AIDS virus in different parts of the country and especially in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) No, Sir-

(b) The total AIDS cases reported to NACO upto 31st December, 1998 is 6693. None of these cases have been attributed to getting infection from dialysis.