

tributorships for Scheduled Castes is made as rostered in the Marketing Plan.

[*English*]

Low Capacity utilisation in Heavy Engineering Corporation

200 1. SHRILALIT VJOYSINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is low capacity utilisation and profitability in HEC;

(b) if so, whether Government have identified the reasons for it and initiated remedial measures; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The various reasons identified are, low production and profitability, lack of balanced load in some load centres and un-remunerative orders and shortage of working capital etc. The remedial measures initiated by the Government for improvement of the working capital of the Corporation include economy in expenditure, cost control diversification of product mix to optimise capacity utilisation, obtaining more orders particularly, for repetitive items of manufacture and better inventory control etc.

Naptha Cracker Project at Visakhapatnam

200 2. SHRI KONATHALA RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for setting

up of Naphtha Cracker units cleared by Union Government during the last one year;

(b) whether Government have issued licence/letter of intent for the down stream projects of naphtha Craker unit at Visakhapatnam-Andhra Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) 3 letters of intent have been issued for setting up of naphtha cracker projects (including expansion of capacity of earlier approved crackers) during the last one year.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Such decision are taken on techno economic considerations at the appropriate time.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Heavy Industry in Hardoi District

2003. SHRI CHAND RAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether heavy industry has been set up in Hardoi district;

(b) whether this district has been declared 'backward area' for developmental purposes; and

(c) if so, the total amount of grant being provided by the Government to entrepreneurs of this district?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI