

of 75 KL of SKO per month is available;

- (ii) New SKO-LDO dealerships can also be created at unrepresented Block Hqrs./Taluka Hqrs.

(c) and (d). Complaints of non-observance of these guidelines are enquired into and appropriate corrective actions are taken wherever necessary. Every effort is made to ensure the compliance of the guidelines. The procedure for selection is also reviewed from time to time to plug loopholes, if any, found in the procedure.

Impact of Rail Tariff Hike on State Electricity Boards

*586. SHRI V. SREENIVASAPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received reports that the proposed rail tariff hike is likely to affect adversely the viability of the State Electricity Boards;

(b) whether cost of coal would also be affected due to this rail tariff hike; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The Government have not so far received any report on the effect of the proposed rail tariff hike on the viability of the State Electricity Boards.

(b) and (c). Coal is sold to the power Boards ex-colliery works. However, increase in the transportation costs of coal from the collieries to the Power Stations as a result of the hike in rail tariff would naturally effect the cost of coal at the power station sites. It has been approximately estimated that for an average lead of 646 Kms., the cost of coal is

likely to go up by about 7% with effect from the 1st April 1990 and about 10% with effect from the 1st October, 1990, with respect to the cost of coal prevalent as on the 31st March, 1990.

[Translation]

Setting up of Agro-based Industries

*587. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:
SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEKHAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some districts in the country have been identified for establishing agro-based industries; and

(b) if so, the names of such districts, State-wise and the industries proposed to be established therein?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). While no districts have been identified by the Central Government in the country for exclusive setting-up of Agro-based industries, it is the policy of the Government to encourage setting-up of Agro-based industries in different parts of the country.

[English]

Hydel Projects of Leh and Kargil Districts of Jammu and Kashmir

*588. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had agreed for the construction of two medium sized hydel projects, one each for Leh and Kargil districts of Jammu and Kashmir to be financed through the National Hydroelectric Power

Corporation; and

(b) if so, the present status of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). No proposal has been received from the States Government of Jammu and Kashmir for taking up hydro-electric Project in Leh and Kargil districts, in the Central Sector, through the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation.

Caprolactum Plant in Bihar

*589. SHRI A.K. ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued a letter of intent for setting up a Caprolactum plant in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the proposed capacity and location of the plant; and

(c) whether Sindri which has all the required infrastructure was considered for the location of the plant and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). A letter of intent has been granted to M/s Bihar State Industrial Development Corporation (BSIDC) on 5.7.1985 for the manufacture of 50,000 TPA of Caprolactum at Barauni, District Begusarai in the State of Bihar.

(c) M/s BSIDC/Govt. of Bihar had requested in December, 1988 for change of location of this Project from Barauni to Sindri on considerations of feedstock availability and other infrastructural facilities at Sindri.

M/s BSIDC/Govt. of Bihar have, however, again requested in January, 1990 for change of location of this Project from Barauni to Bokaro. Government had asked M/s Engineers India Ltd. (EIL) to do a techno-economic assessment between Barauni, Sindri and Bokaro location and to recommend the most suitable and cost effective location. M/s EIL has now submitted in March, 1990 a Report recommending Bokaro site as the most suitable location on techno-economic considerations.

Writing off Outstanding Amount from Handling/Sales Agent

*590. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large amount of Vayudoot outstanding against certain handling/sales agents have been written off recently;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether any efforts were made to recover the outstanding amount from these handling/sales agents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for writing off the outstanding amount?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Setting up of Industries in Madhya Pradesh

*591. KUMARI UMABHARATI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state: