CHAITRA 14, 1911 (SAKA)

	Production Capacity (In tonnes) (Per annum)	Actual Production (In tonnes)		n
		1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
Barauni refinery	45,000	32,300	32,200	32,900
Bongaigaon refinery	52,500	12,550	7,136	15,281

BHEL's entry into Armament Business

*484. SHRI H. A . DORA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited proposes to enter into armament business; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). As part of its diversification programme, BHEL has plans to take up manufacture of defence related items such as field guns, electronic equipment, etc.

Purchase of Cement from North Korea by WBECSC

*485. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a complaint against the West Bengal Essential Commodities Supply Corporation (WBECSE), about the purchase in 1984 of cement worth Rs. 30 crores from North Korea in violation of tender rules;

(b) whether the Department for the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act has enquired into this transaction; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) a complaint was received from Secretary, public Interest Litigation Legal Aid Services Society (PILLASS), seeking enquiry into the transaction relating to the import of cement made by the West Bengal Essential Commodities Supply Corporation (WBECSC) from North Korea.

(b) and (c). The Enforcement Directorate of the Ministry of Finance are looking into the complaint. It is not, therefore, possible at this stage to state whether any contravention of provisions of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) is involved in the deal.

Regarding Drilling Work In West Bengal

*486. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATU-RAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether drilling work for finding oil and gas is going on in many parts of Birbhum and Burdwan districts of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the number d drilling platforms working at present; and

(c) the result of this drilling work so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATU-RAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b). At present 3 rigs are drilling in the onshore areas of West Bengal. Of these two are drilling wells namely Palasi-1 and Main-