

quotations and tenders from other parties is required that we will do but this can only be done after a firm decision has been taken. As regards extension of pipeline some of our fertiliser plants have been delayed, namely, Shahjahanpur, Sawaimadhopur, etc. and our power plants are also delayed to that extent. So we are thinking of having some fallback consumers we can use for the gas already available to us. Then DESU plant is consuming lot of liquid fuel like naphtha which can be replaced by gas and it will be instrumental in saving the environment of Delhi. It is all under examination,

#### Petrochemical Complex in Gujarat

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\*500. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :  
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the request of Government of Gujarat for setting up a petrochemical complex in the State ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in taking final decision thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (c). Some applications for the setting up of a petrochemical complex in Gujarat have been received. Final decision on these applications will be taken after a number of issues relating to availability of feed stock, tie up of resources, etc. are resolved.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Sir, my question is probably clubbed with Hannan Mollah's. The head of my question and the tail of his question have been clubbed together tactfully avoiding the question I wanted to ask.

MR. SPEAKER : That is how marriages take place.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : What is the use ? Sir, I am happy that petro-

chemical complex of Gujarat has been cleared but the Minister in his reply has said that final decision on these applications will be taken. Already it has come in the newspapers that petro-chemical complex of Gujarat has been cleared... (Interruptions)

SHRI J VENGAL RAO : It is not yet cleared.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : In West Bengal Haldia petrochemical complex is already behind the schedule by 18 months. The delay in the implementation of this project caused a great harm. In view of this, I want to know when the petro-chemical project of Haldia will be cleared by the Central Government.

SHRI J VENGAL RAO : I know that the Hon. Member will ask about Haldia also. I give that information. All the clearance from the Government of India have been given. Now its implementation duty is with the West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation and the joint venture of Mr. Goenka.

SHRI J. BASUDEB ACHARIA : He has cleared.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Nothing is left with you now ?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Can you show a letter.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : I have categorically told you that all the clearances were given by us. Now the implementation is with the West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation and joint venture person is Shri Goenka.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : May I know from the Hon. Minister when the applications for setting up this petrochemical complex in Gujarat were taken and the date of approval of this project ?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : From Haldia, I come to Gujarat. The first application which was filed, was rejected. Now in October 1985, the application was filed by Gujarat State Petro-chemical Corporation

Ltd and Reliance Industries for this project. They are under the consideration of the Government.

**SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :** Sir, I request the Minister to tell us whether our country is facing a serious shortage in the supply of HDP, LLDEP, and PVC. And because of that shortage, whether we are forced to spend our hard-earned hard currency. In view of that, I would also like to know whether the country and the Government are concerned for the immediate setting up of petro-chemical complex to save our foreign exchange. In this context, whether it is in the national interest to keep Haldia petro-chemical project pending for seven years and still it is not commissioned? It should have been commissioned a few years back. What is the reason? I would like to know categorically whether there is a political motivation or whether because it is in West Bengal, they are not doing it.

I wrote a letter to the Prime Minister. He wrote to me that it is still under consideration. He is now saying that it was cleared. I would like to know when it was cleared and when it will be commissioned.

**SHRI J. VENGAL RAO :** About Haldia, all the Ministry clearances are over. The implementation portion is with the West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation....(*Interruptions*)

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :** The Prime Minister has written that it is still under consideration....(*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER :** Why can't you listen? Please sit down. When he says that it has been cleared, what does matter, whether cleared today or yesterday.

**SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :** Why it was pending for seven years.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, though it was proposed to set up a petro-chemical complex in Bihar, yet the proposal has not been cleared so far,

May I know from the hon. Minister as to what is the reaction of the Government in this regard because no final decision in the matter has so far been taken. I want to know whether the Hon. Minister proposes to grant a petro-chemical complex in Bihar or the proposal as such has been shelved?

**MR. SPEAKER :** Is it a question related to Bihar?

[*English*]

**SHRI J. VENGAL RAO :** There is a proposal for Barauni. We are sending a team in the first week of April....(*Interruptions*)

#### Capacity Utilisation of Cement Industry

\*501. **SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cement industry has lately been working at a very low capacity utilisation of 70 per cent ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the capacity utilisation of the industry ?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) :** (a) to (c). A Statement is given below.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) : The overall capacity utilisation of cement industry in the last 2 years i.e. 1986 and 1987 has been 77 per cent and 71 per cent of the operational capacity respectively. The capacity utilisation in cement industry would have been better but for the power cuts imposed on the cement industry by the State Electricity Boards in the States of Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh in particular.

(c) The Industry has been encouraged to go in for captive power generation by setting up of captive DG sets and appropriate relief is allowed by reducing the levy quota to partly neutralise additional cost