

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Sir, as I have already said that one industrial licence has been given to East Coast Fertilizer and Chemicals Limited for setting up a single super-phosphate plant with annual capacity of 7,000 tonnes of phosphatic fertilizer in Mayurbhanj district of Orissa. So far, decision on no other application has been taken. But I must say that so far as production of fertilizer is concerned, in Orissa, I think the production is going to be much more than the demnad in that State.

SHRI K. PRADHANI : Mr. Speaker, the Minister in his reply has stated that a large fertiliser plant is going to come up at Paradeep. Generally, the State Governments impose power cuts and the production in these industries is very much affected. To avoid this kind of difficulty, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government proposes to have a captive power plant for electricity production in these industries ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : In Talcher, we have already got a captive plant generating 30 megawatt and I have said on other occasions also that the policy of the Government is that hereafter instead of entirely depending upon the State Electricity grid for the fertiliser plant, we prefer to have our own captive plants.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Considering that West Bengal and Orissa States together facing the same problem, will the Hon. Minister kindly let us know whether he is aware of the fact that the Haldia Fertiliser Plant at Haldia is shut down in the last week rendering about 2500 workers out of job. I want to know whether the Hon. Minister is going to take some steps so that the workers are given the work.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : So far as the Haldia fertiliser project is concerned, the commissioning work is still going on. Therefore, it is very difficult for me to say by what time this project is proposed to be commissioned.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : What will happen to those 2500 workers ?

MR. SPEAKER : You have said that this plant is shut down. But the Minister says that the project is not yet commissioned.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : That is why I wanted to clarify the position. The question of shutting down does not arise because the project has not yet been commissioned. Commissioning work is still going on. How could it be shut down when it is not yet started commissioning ?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : More than 3000 workers are working there and they are getting their wages for more than 10 years.

[Translation]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHY : I want to know from the Hon. Minister the time by which the factories set up at Sultanpur, Budaun and Shahjahanpur in Uttar Pradesh will start production and what their capacity would be.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Sir, the required information will be furnished after making necessary enquiries on the subject if the Hon. Member asks a separate question on it.

Check on Adulteration in Petrol

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*843. **SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :**
DR. G. S. RAJHANS :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Petrol mein milawat karane walon ke khilaph karrwahi nahin hui' (No action taken against the petrol adulterators) appeared in 'Jansatta' of 9 April, 1985;

(b) if so, the names of the places where such cases of adulteration were detected during the past one year;

(c) the action taken against persons engaged in adulteration in petrol; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to check adulteration in petrol ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM : (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Information has been called for from the Government of Haryana, and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Various measures have been taken to check adulteration. These include :

- (i) Instructions to all State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to intensify checks on adulteration of petroleum products.
- (ii) Observance by the Oil Industry of the guidelines on marketing discipline at retail outlets which, inter-alia deal with the matters concerning quality control of products, steps to be taken to prevent adulteration and action to be taken against erring retail outlets/distributors.
- (iii) The vigilance set up in the oil Companies has been strengthened. Regular inspections of retail outlets are conducted by the joint industry team with a view to curbing mal-practices in distribution of petroleum products.

SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : With reference to answers to parts (b) and (c) of the question, I would like to know whether adulteration is taking place only in Haryana or in other parts of the country also.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : These adulteration cases reported in the 'Janasatta' were detected by the Haryana police and it is the Haryana police and the Haryana State Government which have to supply information and in spite of our asking, it has not been supplied to us. Therefore, as soon as we receive it, we would lay it on the Table of the House and also furnish to the

Hon. Member.

With regard to adulteration, it is not only in Haryana, there are many places where adulteration may take place and it cannot be denied that adulteration is not taking place. It is because of many factors.

[Translation]

SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : Have you fixed any limit for the reply to come ?

[English]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : We will try to do it at the earliest.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Have you given instructions to the State Governments to intensify checks ? Have the State Governments followed the instructions ? If so, in how many cases ?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : We have no specific information with regard to this question, but we are pursuing with the State Governments; we hope they are alive to their duties.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHNU MODI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know whether Government propose to amend the Petroleum Act, as this measure was enacted during the British time. A lot of adulteration is being done in Petroleum at present. I would like to know whether Government propose to enact a legislation to check adulteration in petroleum.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : There is no question of amending the Petroleum Act. Diesel is being adulterated with kerosene and it is mainly due to the difference in the prices of kerosene and diesel.

So far as the powers of the State Governments are concerned, they are empowered to take action in this regard under the Essential Commodities Act, against the petrol pump owners. Oil Companies also take steps in this matter. In the cases where such complaints are received by us we cancel the dealership even.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The rates of kerosene and diesel and petrol on the other side have a lot of difference between them. In the Second World War to avoid adulteration it was insisted that some colour should be added to kerosene so that whenever kerosene is added to either diesel or petrol, it can be detected. In many countries that experiment has succeeded and prevented adulteration. Will the Minister try that experiment in our country so as to produce similar results ?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : The issue of developing suitable additive that can be added in kerosene to enable easy detection of admixture of kerosene in MS/HSD has been under consideration of Government. For the past several years, we have tried it, but it has not succeeded. It has not yielded results and we are now going in for dopping furfural in kerosene. This experiment is going on and there are problems with regard to this also. If and when we are certain that this furfural doping in kerosene would be an effective check, we would certainly try it.

Digital Electronic Telephone Exchange

*844. **SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the first digital electronic telephone exchange has been installed in the country;

(b) if so, where and when;

(c) the name of the company from whom it was obtained and the quality of the equipment; and

(d) whether it has been working satisfactorily since installation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At Bombay-Worli, on 10th April, 1985,

(c) and (d). The equipment was obtained from M/s. CIT-Alcatel, France. The quality and working of the equipment is generally satisfactory.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : The answer given by the Minister does not seem to be quite satisfactory. So, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the exchange was to commence working in 1984 August, but this has been done so in 1985 April. If so, I would like to know the reasons for the delay.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : This was the first exchange to be introduced in our system and being of the latest digital type, we wanted that very stringent acceptance test should be adopted before it is really accepted. Then there were problems regarding air-conditioning, etc., which again set back the programme by some months. So, the time taken in completing the acceptance test has been a little high. It is because we were introducing it for the first time and we were not taking any chance with regard to the acceptance test and the stringent measures that we wanted to adopt.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Sir, is it a fact that under the agreement with the French firm, 22 more sets have been imported ? And is Government going to import ten more, in view of its experience with regard to the working of the equipment being generally satisfactory ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : One of the agreements that was entered while accepting this technology was that we would import 200 thousand lines of this system to be used in our country, and these 200 thousand lines are being installed right now. I will list out the places where the work is being done, in Delhi, in Calcutta and other places. I think this agreement was part of the original agreement and we are implementing it, in this manner.

Marine Effective Economic Zone

*845 **SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the surface area of the Marine Effective Economic Zone;