

Expansion of Coastal Refineries

*132. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved expansion programme of coastal refineries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Details of the approved expansion programmes of Coastal refineries are given below:—

Refinery	Expansion (in Million Tonnes per Annum)		Installation of Additional Facility
	From	To	
Cochin Refineries Ltd., Kerala	3.3	3.5	Fluid Catalytic Cracking Unit with associated facilities.
Bharat Petroleum Corporation, Bombay	5.25	6.00	0.6 MTA Fluid Catalytic Cracking Unit.
Madras Refinery Ltd., Tamil Nadu	2.80	5.60	Do.
Hindustan Petroleum Refinery, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	1.50	4.50	Do.

SHRI M RAM GOPAL REDDY: Sir, it is very good of the Minister to have trebled the capacity of the Hindustan Petroleum Refinery at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. I want to know how much time he is going to take to complete this.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): Sir, we have given the answer for the expansion of Cochin Refinery, Bharat Petroleum and Madras Refineries and Visakhapatnam Refinery. Now, Visakhapatnam refinery is being expanded from 1.50 million tonnes to 4.50 million tonnes. A revised cost estimate has come and that is being looked into. The revised feasibility report estimated the cost at Rs. 119.12 crores with a foreign exchange component of Rs. 15.27 crores because the cost has gone up by almost about Rs. 53 crores. The difference between the original cost as approved by the Government and the revised cost estimate is very high. It is receiving close scrutiny.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Sir, before sanctioning expansion, the Government might have taken all these things into consideration. When once it has been cleared, now you say that so much money is required and you are considering about it. Is it correct on the part of the Government to say it at this stage?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: I have not said that we would not take up the expansion of the refinery. What we are trying to do is that in view of the fact that the feasibility report has increased the cost of the project, we have sent the proposal again to the Public Investment Board and once it gets clearance from there, the Government's clearance will be given.

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL: If you refer to the figure, Sir, the Cochin Refinery's expansion is from 3.3 million tonnes to 3.5 million tonnes whereas in respect of B.P.C. it is from 5.25 to 6.00 million tonnes, in

respect of Madras Refinery it is from 2.80 to 5.60 million tonnes and in respect of Hindustan Petroleum Refinery it is from 1.50 to 4.50 million tonnes.

(a) May I ask why the Cochin Refinery's expansion is confined to .02 million tonnes whereas the other refineries have very large expansion programme?

(b) is, there is a proposal...

MR. SPEAKER: Only (a).

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL: Only one I will put two, let him choose to answer any one.

(Interruptions)

SHRI XAVIER ARAKAL: So, I shall confine myself to this: Why and how much money is allotted to this?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: The Cochin Refinery, besides this expansion of .02 million tonnes which has already been approved, has also submitted a further addition of 1 million tonnes. Here also the original cost estimate was Rs. 30.90 crores. But the revised cost estimate sent by the Refinery is Rs. 87.140 crores which is higher by Rs. 56.24 crores. Therefore, this is also again going to PIB and is also being scrutinised thoroughly. But this expansion of 1 million tonnes in Cochin will be taken up.

News Item Captioned "False Entries in Books—DESU Cheated"

*135. SHRI R. L. P. VERMA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the news items in the 'Indian Express' dated the 3rd June, 1981 captioned "False Entries in Books—DESU cheated" and to state:

(a) what steps are proposed to be taken in this direction besides the steps to be taken to clear the backlog of electricity bills;

(b) how many cases have come to notice during the last one year where the Meter Inspectors visited the houses of subscribers, threatened disconnection of electricity and misbehaved

with the ladies, even though no bill was outstanding for payment; and

(c) what action was taken to check recurrence of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Government have seen the news item appearing in the 'Indian Express' of 3rd June, 1981. DESU has reported that some cases of false entries made in the account books relating to consumer accounts have come to their notice; all these cases have been investigated by their Vigilance Department and necessary complaint is being lodged with the police. One Assistant Accountant and one Junior Clerk have also been suspended and disciplinary proceedings against one Superintendent Accounts have also been initiated. DESU have also issued suitable instructions to all the district engineers to exercise more supervision and vigilance to avoid recurrence of such cases.

As regards clearance of the backlog of electricity bills, DESU has already initiated steps to expedite the preparation of bills to the consumers.

(b) DESU has reported that no such specific case has been brought to their notice.

(c) In view of the reply against part (b), this question does not arise.

श्री रीतलाल प्रसाद वर्मा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मन्त्री जी ने जो जवाब दिया है वह पूरा नहीं है इसलिए मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि दिल्ली विद्युत प्रदाय संस्थान के सतर्कता विभाग ने उपभोक्ताओं के फाल्स एन्ट्री के कितने मामले जाँच किए और उन में से कितने सूटे साबित हुए ?