

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You can ask him to see in your chamber. (Interruptions)

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : He can say roughly that for how much time, the hired rigs are required.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : The point is that there is a committee which goes into it and decide the duration of the usage of rig. An empowered committee is there for this purpose and the experts go to the site and then they decide. That is all that I can say in this context.

Setting up of Gas-Based Petro-Chemicals Complex in Gujarat

*495. SHRI R.P. GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Gujarat Government had made application for setting up a gas-based Petro-chemicals complex in July, 1979;

(b) whether a Site Selection Committee set up by Government of India has recommended Kawas near Surat for locating this project;

(c) whether it is a fact that although the Central Government have decided in principle to set up two gas-based petro-chemicals complexes, one each in Gujarat and Maharashtra, clearance has not yet been given to the Gujarat Complex while in the case of Maharashtra a task force has been constituted to start implementation of the project;

(d) whether a Working Group constituted by the Centre to study the viability of the Gujarat Complex has established the financial and economic viability of the project ; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not giving clearance to the Gujarat Project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir,

(c) to (e) Government has decided in principle to set up two gas-based petro-chemicals complexes, one in Maharashtra and another in Gujarat.

A Working Group set up for the proposed project in Gujarat has reviewed the product pattern and is awaiting receipt of the revised feasibility report from the Government of Gujarat which will indicate the financial and economic viability of the project.

SHRI R.P. GAEKWAD : Sir, this project is not only important to the State but also important to the nation. Therefore, I would like to know what further progress has been made and what steps are initiated by the Central Government to see that the petro-chemicals project in Gujarat starts early like the Maharashtra project ?..... (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY : There is so much of hesitation in answering the question.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR) : Sir, the Hon. Member has asked the question of expediting the execution of this project as compared to the Maharashtra project. In fact, so far as the petro-chemicals complexes are concerned, the Maharashtra project is in the Central sector and the Gujarat petro-chemicals complex is in the State sector. The product pattern is being reviewed for the purpose of looking into the financial viability of it. In fact, some time back, in 1981, the Gujarat Government had made a suggestion that this petro-chemicals complex could be taken up as a joint venture where the State Government could come out with 40% of the share-holdings, the Central Government with the same 40% of the share-holdings and the rest—20%—could be from the financial institutions. Because of these difficulties and because of the product pattern that has undergone a change, the feasibility report of this project with reference to financial and economic viability has yet to be received.

We have been impressing on the Gujarat Government to take up this project at an early date. Some time back, they even suggested that they would like to go on their own. But unless they give us a clear project report and say what are the products which they are going to manufacture, it will be difficult for us to say whether it will go ahead earlier than the Maharashtra project about which my hon. friend made a reference.

श्री हीरालाल आर० परमार : अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया कि गुजरात सरकार से रिपोर्ट मांगी है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह रिपोर्ट कौन-सी तारीख को मांगी गई और इस प्रोजेक्ट रिपोर्ट में क्या खामियां हैं जिसकी वजह से यह अभी तक नहीं मिली है ?

श्री पी० शिव शंकर : एकचुअली, मई 1982 में स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने खुद यह कहा है कि वे इस प्रोजेक्ट को आगे बढ़ायेंगे। अब मेरे पास इस वक्त तो डिटेल्स नहीं हैं कि कौन-सी तारीख को उन्होंने मांगा और हमने जवाब दिया है। इसका मैं अलग तरीके से मेम्बर को लिख कर बता सकता हूँ। Within a couple of days, I will write to him about this part of the detail.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER : The Hon. Minister in his reply has stated that two gas-based petro-chemical complexes will come up, one in Maharashtra and another in Gujarat. He has said that it will be a joint venture. As he knows, the Research and Development Organisation and E.I.L. is capable of setting up gas-based petro-chemicals complexes with an indigenous technology. So, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether these two gas-based petro-chemical complexes will be set up with indigenous technology. I want that a categorical answer should be given that it will not be given to any foreign concern.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : No, Sir. I will bring it to the notice of the House that wherever our technology is available, we have tried to see that our technology alone is used for the purpose of setting up petro-chemical complexes. In fact, so far as the Maharashtra petro-chemicals complex is concerned, the global tenders were invited for the purpose of going ahead because of the resource constraints and so on and so forth. But I assure the Hon. Member that even where we have been going for the foreign parties on the basis of global tenders and on the basis of the lowest tender offer, still we have been trying to associate the indigenous technology with them in the fields where it is possible. It is not as though a very cut and dry policy could be adopted in these matters. The policy that suits the nation or that suits the project and which will be helpful for our national development would certainly be adopted.

श्री सत्यनारायण जटिया : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कैमिकल्स की जिस प्रकार से देश में मांग बढ़ती जा रही है और हम पेट्रो कैमिकल कमप्लैक्सेज की स्थापना करना चाहते हैं उस बारे में योजना बनायी है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन कमप्लैक्सेज की स्थापना के लिये कोई निश्चित कार्यक्रम बनाया है और उसके मुताबिक प्रोडक्शन देने के लिये कोई कार्यक्रम तय किया है, यह जानकारी मंत्री जी देने की कृपा करें।

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : The perspective plans are being prepared from time to time. So far as the Government of India is concerned, there is a team which has been working to take in advance the decisions with respect to developments when we have got to set up petro-chemical complexes on the basis of gas find or otherwise.

Production and Distribution of Coal

*497. **SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that serious crisis in many sectors particularly in indus-