

oil, the supplies to the Dhuvaran power plant of Gujarat Electricity Board continue to be made at the provisional price of Rs 45 per tonne as against Rs. 137.73 per tonne, which is the current ex-refinery selling price to the Ahmedabad Electricity Company for supplies from Koyali Refinery and a similar price for the same product from Barauni Refinery to the adjoining thermal station of Bihar State Electricity Board. The price at which this product is being sold to the Trombay Thermal Station is presently Rs. 103.21 per tonne and an upward revision is under negotiation.

(c) The earlier suggestions made by the Government to refer the matter to arbitration were not accepted by the State Government. A suggestion to this effect however has now been revived from the State Government and is under consideration.

Requirement of Vijayanta tank plates

*439 SHRI K. MALLANNA
SHRI N. SHVIAPPA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred Question No. 466 on the 14th June, 1971 regarding requirement of Vijayanta Tank Plates and states :

(a) the success achieved so far by Government in meeting all the requirements of Vijayanta tank plates from indigenous sources; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) and (b) By and large, the major requirements of the Armour Plates for the manufacture of Vijayanta Tanks are being met by the Hindustan Steel Ltd., Rourkela. Marginal shortfalls are being imported efforts are, however, being made to increase the capacity of Hindustan Steel Limited, Rourkela to meet our requirement in full.

Credit Restrictions

*440. SHRI V. MAYAVAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the credit restrictions against groundnut, castor seed, lin-seed and oil and vanaspati have proved major hurdles in the way of expansion and modernisation of the industry;

(b) whether oil cake has picked up increasing demand in the international markets; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government for credit facilities to step up the exports of the aforesaid products?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Consistent with the requirements of overall credit policy, the Reserve Bank of India reviews the position with regard to credit facilities for various commodities from time to time and where necessary, gives specific relaxations in the credit control for various purposes including promotion of export. Accordingly, suitable relaxations are also given for the export of oil cake against firm orders for export of oil cake and export bills.

Growth in manufacturing allopathic formulations and basic drugs

*441. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether commercial units manufacturing allopathic formulations and basic drugs have registered phenomenal growth since the Independence: and

(b) if so, the extent thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Apart from the increase in the physical number of units manufacturing drugs and pharmaceuticals from about 1640 in 1952 to about 2610 in 1970, there has been an impressive increase