

**PROF. K.V. THOMAS :** Sir, I seek your protection. The question is that Kerala Scooters has been given licence to manufacture the motor-cycles. It is only that a part of this capacity has been transferred to KEL and KEL has negotiated with an Italian company for collaboration. In India almost all the motor-cycles are manufactured by private sector industries and these private sector industries have got collaboration with Japanese companies. It is the only public sector undertaking which is coming up in our country to manufacture motor-cycles.

Sir, there is no question of exceeding the capacity because you have already given a licence to manufacture these motor-cycles. Sir, you have been protecting the interests of the farmers. You should also protect the interests of the public sector undertakings which are under attack.

**SHRI J. VENGAL RAO :** Sir, Kerala Scooters is a sick unit which was taken over by the Kerala Government. Kerala Government has already incurred a loss of Rs. 3 crores. Further, Sir, we have now granted licence to manufacture upto 2 lakh scooters indigenously so we are not going to allow any foreign collaboration.

**SHRI A. CHARLES :** Sir, the Minister has said that Kerala Scooters is a sick unit. The recent policy of the Government is to give direction to the big industries to adopt sick units. Here is a case of one public sector coming to the rescue of another public sector undertaking. Kerala is one of the most backward State in industry. Further the total capacity is not exceeding and the recent policy of the Government is to remove some of the hurdles in the import of foreign technology wherever it is necessary. May I know from the hon. Minister in view of the peculiar situation of Kerala whether the hon. Minister will consider the proposal of KEL to come to the rescue of Kerala Scooters which will ultimately help the State of Kerala in removing its industrial backwardness?

**SHRI J. VENGAL RAO :** Sir, the Kerala Scooters is not working. It is a sick unit. Now 500 people are unemployed. The latest policy of the Government is not to take over the sick units. In Gujarat also we have issued licences for Gujarat Government. They are manufacturing with indigenous technology only.

[Translation]

**Setting up of Petrochemical Complex based on Natural Gas In Madhya Pradesh**

\*311. **SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has sent any proposal for setting up any petrochemical complex in the State based on the natural gas available from Bombay High; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Union Government in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :** Sir, Hajira Vijaypur gas pipeline is passing through Jhabua, Diwas, Ujjain, Indore, Shajapur, Guna and Shivpuri districts of Madhya Pradesh, which cuts Madhya Pradesh horizontally and covers a large area. Will the hon. Minister consider sanctioning of some petrochemical complex or ancillary industries in any part of Madhya Pradesh, where the pipeline is passing through? Has any survey been done in this connection?

**SHRI BRAHMA DUTT :** Madhya Pradesh Government has not applied. But one of the biggest fertilizer plant is coming up at Guna and four other companies have been given permission to establish petro-chemical units. We are also thinking and exploring the possibility of setting up joint sector enterprises for extraction of L.P.G. propane etc. at suitable locations.

**SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :** What was the schedule of the construction of the gas pipe line Hajira-Vijaypur? Was it delayed? if delayed, for what reasons? When will it reach Vijapur, because the fertilizer plant there is being delayed because of this gas pipeline?

**SHRI BRAHMA DUTT :** I think, there is no delay. We are monitoring it. As soon as the plant is ready, gas will be supplied to it.

**SHRI MURLI DEORA :** The real solution to meet the urban fuel gas requirements is through pipeline as they have done in western countries. The Government has been considering for a long time the proposal to supply domestic fuel through pipeline to the Bombay city. I would like to know whether this scheme has been finalised and whether the required quantity of gas has been allocated to the Bombay Gas Company. How much time will it take the materialise finally?

**SHRI BRAHMA DUTT:** I require a separate notice for this question.

#### Use of Krishna Basin Gas By Andhra Pradesh

\*313. **SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the "Newstime" dated 12 September, 1986 under the caption 'Andhra Pradesh reluctant to use Krishna basin gas';

(b) if so, whether 1.5 lakh cubic metres of natural gas can be made available per day for commercial application; and

(c) the likely date from which the gas will be made available to prospective entrepreneurs?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):**  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) About 1.5 lakh cubic metres of gas per day is expected to be available by about the middle of 1987.

**SHRI V.SOBHANADREESWARA RAO:** I am happy that at least the hon. Minister has come forward with a categorical answer that about 1.5 lakh cubic metres of gas per day is expected to be available by about the middle of 1987. In the previous two sessions I and my other colleagues had been asking from the Government about the availability of gas for commercial purposes, but the Government had then told us that they had not yet assessed the quantity of gas that would be available for commercial use and from which date it can be made available. My question was:

"Whether his Ministry's attention

has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Newstime' dated 12th September, 1986 under the caption 'Andhra Pradesh reluctant to use Krishna basin gas'."

Unfortunately, somehow the high placed officials in the ONGC have been giving a wrong impression to the people, and I fear that they are still not supplying the correct information to the Government. While the Government did not give the information in the previous sessions, the ONGC officials have gone on record to say, as was reported in the Newstime:

"About 1.5 lakh cubic metres of natural gas can be produced every day from the four wells we have sunk so far in Razole and Narsapur. And we have in the last eight months tried to get entrepreneurs and the AP Government to set up industries to make use of this valuable fuel, but the response has not been very encouraging."

This gives a very wrong impression to those who go through these press reports. I would like to know from the Government whether they are aware that recently, the APIDC Chairman has conducted a joint meeting comprising both the ONGC representatives and entrepreneurs from the Coastal Andhra near the source and convinced both sides to agree to the suggestion of making both gas and coal prices equivalent. In spite of the fact that the State Government is giving several incentives and concessions to the new entrepreneurs by way of lower rates of electricity, concessions on purchases, etc., they are not coming forward because of this gas price which is fixed at Rs. 900 per 1000 cubic meters. In the present circumstances, to avoid transport of coal in wagons and so on, will the Ministry direct the ONGC to finally agree to fix the price of gas that will be made available, equivalent to that of coal prices, so that the entrepreneurs will come forward?