

ment is concerned, it has not been considered so far.

[*Eng'ish*]

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Sir, in the statement laid on the Table the second digital electronic factory to be set-up in Bangalore does not find a place. May I know whether Government has taken decision in the matter or will it meet the same fate as the first Digital electronic factory which was decided to be set-up in Bangalore but was later shifted to U.P. ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, the second digital electronic factory does not find a place because we have not yet entered into agreement with respect to that factory. The matter is under consideration.

New Anti-T. B. Drug

*308. **SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :**
SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 19 October, 1985 under the heading "Vital TB drug developed in India" and

(b) if so, how far it has been proved successful in eradicating TB ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The drug referred to in the press report is Rifampicin which is already being used in the country for the treatment of T. B.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the name of the companies which are manufacturing this drug in India as well as abroad and whether the Government is aware of the importance of this drug.

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : Sir, in India, we have given licence to H.A.L. for manufacture of 15.5 tonnes, M/s Themis Pharmaceuticals for the manu-

facture of 1 tonne, M/s. Hindustan Ciba Geigy for the manufacture of 12 tonnes, M/s. Cadila Labs. for 10 tonnes, M/s. Curewel (I) Ltd. for 10 tonnes and M/s. Alembic Chemicals for the manufacture of 20 tonnes. There are four countries which are specialising in this. They are : Italy, Pharmachim, Sophia, Bulgaria, Chong Kum Dang Corporation, South Korea and Ciech Polfa, Poland. These are the main countries which are manufacturing this drug.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : What steps are taken by the Government to propagate extensively this drug ?

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : Sir, it has been recently reported as also in the newspapers about this drug. M/s. Themis Pharmaceuticals in India have been able to manufacture this drug. But they are not yet a commercial producer. The commercial production has not started. This is the usual yardstick. Once they start manufacture, then they come to us for price fixation and we can give as much help as possible.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the hon. Minister kindly let us know the total number of deaths because of TB ?

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : I don't have the figures for this at the moment.

Setting up of Thermal Power Station in Kanya Kumari, Tamil Nadu

*311. **SHRI N. DENNIS :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to open a Thermal Power Station in Kanya Kumari District of Tamil Nadu :

(b) if so, whether any survey is being undertaken in this connection ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) It is not proposed to set up a thermal power station in the Central Sector in Kanya Kumari district.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

SHRI N. DENNIS : Sir, the Chief Engineer of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board and other authorities have conducted on-the-spot study regarding the feasibility of a Thermal power project at Rajakkamangalam of Kanya Kumari District. Suitable site has also been identified, which is a government land. Previously it was used for salt manufacture and now this land has been kept idle for this purpose. It appears that the authorities are fully satisfied with the proposed site for setting up a thermal power plant at Rajakkamangalam in Kanya Kumari district. May I know from the hon. Minister whether any proposal has been received by the Government in this regard and any representation has also been received from the public in this regard? I would also like to know whether the Government would re-examine its decision and come forward to set up a thermal power plant in Kanya Kumari district.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Sir, the Central Electricity Authority has not received any proposal so far from the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board for setting up a power plant in Kanya Kumari District or for techno-economic clearance by the C.E.A. However, the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board is examining the possibility of locating a thermal power project at Kanya Kumari. There, they have undertaken survey for locating and investigating a suitable site for a thermal power station with an initial capacity of 2×210 megawatts and ultimate capacity of 5×210 megawatts near Colachel in Kanya Kumari District where a port facility is proposed to be developed. At the moment the port facility proposed to be developed does not exist there. If there is any proposal, then it is with the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board and nothing has come to the Central Electricity Authority or the Central Government so far.

SHRI N. DENNIS : Sir, the place referred to earlier is an ideal place for setting up a thermal power project. All the infrastructural facilities are there. Nearness to the Colachel harbour and railway station and other circumstances greatly favour the setting up of a thermal project there. This district is classified as an industrially backward district.

Educated and un-educated unemployment is very high there.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether these aspects will be taken into consideration as additional favourable points for setting up of a thermal power project at Rajakkamangalam in Kanya Kumari district?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : When the proposal comes to us, we will take all these aspects into consideration.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : In India except in one or two States in almost all the States, there is a power constraint. Power is the main important input for an industry and according to our Industrial Policy also, without power we cannot install any industry at all. We are going for mechanised industries and not labour-oriented industries. Thermal power is always costlier than the hydel power. We have exhausted all sources with regard to hydel power. If we go in for thermal power, the cost of production will be more. I think, there is a scheme for using sea water to generate energy as also use the water for drinking purposes. I would like to know whether the Government is going to implement such a scheme.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : It is true that while considering the various sources of energy in the non-conventional area, there is an idea of using sea tide also as a source to help generation of energy like the wind or other sources. But technologically, it has not yet been fully established as to how it can be economical to generate power, but efforts are being made to study the available technology and experience abroad as also in our country. We will definitely see how far we will be able to utilise this source for generating energy. We want to tap every source possible.

[Translation]

Linking of Lucknow with Ayodhya by S.T.D.

*314. **SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to link Lucknow with Ayodhya Telephone