

Petro-chemicals Corporation Limited, Vadodara has developed a bi-metallic reforming catalyst. The catalyst has thoroughly tested both by Indian Institute of Petroleum and Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited in their pilot plants and its performance was found to be at par with that of the imported catalyst.

The know-how for the manufacture of the catalyst has been licensed to Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited who have commenced commercial Production at their Bombay unit. The catalyst is undergoing commercial scale trials at the reformer units of (a) Madras Refineries since June, 1990 for production of gasoline and (b) Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited at Vadodara since January, 1991 for production of aromatics.

(b) At present the reforming catalyst is being imported by the petrorefining industry; it is thus proposed to produce the catalyst for use by all the existing as well as new reforming units to be set up in the country as a measure of import substitution. In addition efforts would be to export the catalyst. Later the possibility of exporting the know-how as well, could also be explored.

Central Rural Sanitation Programme

1526. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tamil Nadu Government had sought financial assistance under the Central Rural Sanitation Programme;

(b) if so the reaction of Union Government thereto;

(c) whether a demonstration project has already been taken up in Mysore district with UNICEF assistance; and

(d) if so the details of the rural sanitation facilities made available in Mysore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATELY (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Against the request of the state Government of Tamil Nadu for Rs. 447.40 lakhs under Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP) for 1991-92, the Central Government has agreed to provide Rs. 222.90 lakhs based on the criteria for allocation of funds and the total outlay approved for CRSP for 1991-92.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Since the commencement of the project in 1989-90, 16025 individual household latrines have been constructed so far.

1527. [Transferred to the 2nd August, 1991.]

Salient feature of Cable Networks and Disk Antenna

1528. CHOWDHARY HARI (SINGH): Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what are the salient features of cable television networks and dish antenna systems;

(b) whether they are in operation in India;

(c) if so, whether they are operated by Government agencies or private bodies;

(d) whether the normal TV receiving-sets can catch the programmes of TV systems of other countries through cable television networks and dish antenna systems; and

(e) if not the equipment which is needed for the purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) A 'Cable TV Networks in its simple form consists of a facility for distribution of programme from a central place over cables to its subscribers. On the other hand, a dish-antenna system, with or without, forming a part of such a cable TV Network, enables a viewer to receive TV programme direct from satellite.

(b) Yes, sir.

(c) Such Cable TV Networks both with or without, dish-antenna systems have been set up in the country by private agencies.

(d) and (e) A normal TV receiving set linked to a cable TV network supported by appropriately designed dish-antenna system can receive the TV signals from a foreign satellite, so long as location of the network falls within the foot-print of the satellite. However, as per the existing law and the instructions issued thereunder, licences for establishment of Dish-Antenna systems are issued to receive TV signal from Indian satellite only.

Poverty alleviation proposals in Tamil Nadu.

1529. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the new proposals that are going to implemented during the years 1991-92 in Tamil Nadu to uplift people living below the poverty line and

(b) what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) In the Central Sector, only the on-going poverty alleviation schemes like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) in rural areas, and Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) in urban areas are going to continue during the year 1991-92.

Officer of non-resident Indian to establish mineral water plant in Himachal Pradesh

1530. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: (a) whether it is a fact that a non-resident Indian had approached Government with a offer to establish a mineral water plant in Himachal Pradesh:

(b) if so, the details of the offer and the present position of the case: and

(c) the action taken by Government so far in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (c) An application for the grant of Letter of Intent for the setting up of an unit under the 100 per cent Export Oriented Scheme for the manufacture of PET PVC bottles and LDPE caps, treatment, processing and bottling of mineral water, duly capped, packed and palletised for export for an annual capacity of 1460 lakh bottles in Tehsil & District Solan in the State of Himachal Pradesh, has been received from an Indian Company namely Himalayan Pure Waterhouse Ltd., New Delhi. The proposal has been approved and the applicant party has been issued a Letter of Intent on 15-5-1991.

Manufacturing of crystal salt in Ram of Katch

1531. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the method of manufacturing crystal salt in the Rann of Kutch is still primitive even after four decades of Independence;

(b) whether it is also a fact that working condition of the actual salt manufacturer is poor and welfare activities for them are nil; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the working conditions of workers engaged in the manufacture of

salt? THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) Salt is manufactured, in the Rann of Kutch by solar evaporation of sub-soil brine. The method of manufacturing salt in the Rann of Kutch has much improved during the last four decades.

(b) Government has been extending financial assistance out of cess proceeds, for labour welfare amenities to the _la-