

(b) No, Sir. The production in the Company continued. However, due to critical financial condition full capacity utilisation could not be achieved.

(c) No financial help has been provided by the Government.

(d) No proposal was made to the Govt. for consideration.

Cases of Maharashtra pending for Environmental Clearance

1271. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of cases from Maharashtra which are pending with Government for clearance from environmental angle, and since when; and

(b) by when they are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) and (b) Status of the six pending projects is as given below :

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Date of Receipt	Status
1	Combined Cycle Power Plant at Trombay—Tata Electric Co	March, 1990	The Clarifications furnished in July, 1991 have been examined for processing the case.
2	DMF Plant at Thaj-Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd.	Nov, 1990	Clarifications sought from State Pollution Control Board and or Project Authorities are awaited.
3	LPG Recovery Plant at Usar (Phase-I) Gas Authority of India Ltd.	August, 1991	Clarifications sought from State Pollution Control Board and or Project Authorities are awaited.
4	Pimpalgaon Opencast Project—Western Coal Fields Ltd.	Feb. 1990	Clarifications sought from State Pollution Control Board and/or Project authorities are awaited.
5	Bellora Opencast Mine—Western Coal Field Ltd.	Feb. 1990	Examination of the proposal has now been completed.
6	Gondagaon Opencast Project—Western Coal Fields Ltd.	Jan. 1990	Do.

A final decision can be taken in the light of the further examination or on receipt of clarifications sought. This is normally done within three months after receipt of complete details.

Supply of Diesel to Deep Sea Fishing Vessels by MPEDA

1272. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by MPEDA to facilitate availability of

diesel fuel at international prices to the deep sea fishing vessels;

(b) what is the number of deep sea fishing vessels which have started availing of this facility;

(c) whether all eligible units are availing this facility of cheaper diesel fuel;

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(e) what steps are being taken to make this facility easily accessible; and

(f) what is the quantity of subsidy availed so far by the deep sea fishing units since the inception of this scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) Government has announced an export-linked scheme for making High Speed Diesel Oil available at international prices to deep sea fishing vessels registered with Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) under MPEDA Act, 1972 and the rules thereunder. MPEDA is implementing this scheme with effect from 1st April, 1991 for the diesel oil consumed from 1-1-1991 by the deep sea fishing vessels.

(b) to (f) 33 out of 38 registered exporter fishing companies have applied for assistance under the scheme. These applications are being processed.

Exchange Rate between Rupee, Rouble and Dollar

1273. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest exchange rate between (i) rupee-rouble (ii) rouble-dollar (iii) dollar-rupee; and

(b) what steps Government are taking to correct the fallacy in rupee-rouble-dollar rate, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) According to the latest information available from the Reserve Bank of India, the Rupee-Rouble exchange rate as on 5-9-1991 is Rs. 30.8390 is equal to Rouble 1 and the Dollar Rupee exchange rate on the same date is 1 US dollar is equal to Rs. 26.08. The Rouble is

not a quoted convertible currency. The official exchange rate as on 2-9-91 as reported in the 'Financial Times', London of 3rd September, 1991 is US dollar 1 is equal to Rouble 0.5936.

(b) Both the Rupee and the Rouble are not convertible currencies. Hence the question of any fallacy in the Rupee-Rouble-Dollar rate does not arise.

Number of AIDS Cases detected Position

1274. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUP. TA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the country's foreign exchange reserve position as on 25th August, 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): As on 25th August 1991 foreign exchange reserves (Excluding Gold and Special Drawing Rights) are Rs. 2816.76 crores.

Number of aids Cases Detected

1275. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

SHRI BEKAL UTAHI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of AIDS cases detected so far State-wise, indicating the number of cases prone to AIDS and those suffering from full blown AIDS;

(b) the sections of Society who are prone to this disease;

(c) what steps have been taken and are being taken to contain it; and

(d) what is the progress made so far in finding an effective treatment of the disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a)