

**Setting up of Haldia Petrochemical Project .**

1456. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH:  
SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY  
JOSHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 697 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th July, 1989 and state:

(a) what is the expected cost of the Haldia Petrochemical Project and its estimated production; and

(b) whether the above project will be in private sector or in the public sector

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) The West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. has since applied for a fresh letter of intent for a large sized petrochemical complex at Haldia, conforming to the minimum economic sizes prescribed for such projects. It has been indicated in the application that the estimated capital cost of the complex was around Rs. 3,000 crores and that it was proposed to be implemented in joint sector.

The application is under process.

**Cement production in the country**

1457. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the production of cement in the country during the period from July 1988 to January 31, 1990. State-wise;

(b) how much quantity was taken during the said period as levy and at what rate; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to increase the production

of cement and what incentives are likely to be given to the industry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The required information is given in Statement (See below.

(b) The required information is given in Annexure (See Appendix CLIII, Annexure No. 64)

(c) The following steps have been taken by Government to boost the Production of cement:—

(i) The production of cement is closely monitored by the Office of the Development Commissioner for Cement Industry. The DCCI renders assistance to the Cement Industry for making available various inputs like coal, power and wagons by taking up the matter with the concerned authorities, namely, the State Electricity Boards, Ministry of Railways, Department of Coal, Coal Organisations, etc.

(ii) The industry is encouraged to undertake schemes for productivity enhancement, upgradation of technology, installation of energy conservation equipments, modernisation and rehabilitation. Import of technology and capital goods is permitted where necessary, for this purpose.

(iii) The cement industry has been advised to install sufficient captive power generating capacity. Import of diesel generating sets not indigenously available is permitted for this purpose.

(iv) With effect from 1-3-1989, price and distribution controls have been removed. It is expected that with this measure the growth of cement industry would be accelerated.

(v) Rebate in central excise duties are allowed to newer units. The excise duty on cement manufactured by Mini Cement Plants with certain specified capacities has been reduced by Rs. 100/- per tonne from the general effective rate.