

these filler bodies, the possible explosion of fuel tank is prevented. The foreign collaboration was approved only in December, 1987. No report has so far been received about the implementation of the project or about the functioning of the device.

Working of C-DOT Technology

1505. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that C-DOT has not been able to complete its task within the schedule agreed upon;

(b) whether C-DOT claims to have developed technology for a different telephone exchange than the one originally scheduled;

(c) what is the total expenditure incurred on C-DOT since its formation;

(d) whether any complaints have been received from scientific community and others about the working of C-DOT; and

(e) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. C-DOT has developed small capacity Rural Automatic Exchange for use in villages and Private Automatic Branch Exchange for Urban applications.

(c) The total expenditure incurred by C-DOT on Electronic Switching System Project up to 31-3-1989 is Rs. 53.5 crores.

(d) and (e) Some press reports criticising the delay in completion of the project have appeared. Such delays are not unexpected in such R&D Projects.

Indigenous production of Paraxylene

1506. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the indigenous production of Paraxylene is likely to be increased in the near future;

(b) if so, what is the present production and likely increase projected;

(c) whether imports of Paraxylene will also be stopped; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) The production of Paraxylene in 1988 was around 30,000 tonnes. With the completion of projects under implementation, the production capacity for Paraxylene will increase to around 1,45,000 TPA. However, even thereafter, there will be gap between demand and domestic availability which shall have to be covered through imports.

Proposal of Tamil Nadu Petrochemical Products Limited

1507. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have cleared the proposal of Tamil Nadu Petrochemical Products Limited for manufacturing Linear Alkyl Benzen at Manali in Chingleput District;

(b) what is the total amount of investment involved in setting up of the project; and

(c) whether SPIC has contributed huge shares in setting up of this industry?