

**Crisis in Plastic Industry**

\*91. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU:  
SHRI M. MADDANNA;

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Plastics in industry facing crisis' which appeared in the 'Times of India' dated the 11th April, 1985 to the effect that the difference in the price of naphtha for the fertilizer industry and petro-chemical industries has been causing difficulties for the plastic industry and small plastic processors in particular;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to remove the price disparity in the supply of naphtha to both the industries and to bring the naphtha price for Petro-Chemicals at par with that of fertilizers;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The plastics industry has made representations that the indigenous selling price as well as the imported landed cost of imported plastic resins is very high.

- (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) It is not possible to subsidise prices of petroleum feed stock for non-essential industries whose product prices are not controlled.

**Mathura Oil Refinery**

\*92. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA:  
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the capacity of Mathura Oil Refinery is being fully utilised;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Against the designed capacity of 6 million tonnes per annum the crude through put during the year 1984-85 was 6.24 million tonnes resulting in capacity utilisation of the order of 104 per cent.

(c) Does not arise.

**Leakage of poisonous gas from Union Carbide Plant, Bhopal**

\*93. SHRI RAMCHANDRA  
BHARADWAJ:

SHRI SURESH  
PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that poisonous gas and acid fumes again leaked from the killer Union Carbide pesticide plant at Bhopal during the last week of March, 1985; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof and what remedial steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b) According to the information received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh,