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6	M/s Bongaigaon Refinery & Petrochemicals Ltd., Bongaigaon.	Bongaigaon (Assam)	90,00 ⁰
7	M/s India Polyfibres Ltd., Lucknow	Barabanki (Uttar Pradesh)	15,00 ⁰
8	M/s Orissa Synthetics Ltd., Bhubaneswar	Dhenkanal (Orissa)	15,000
9	M/s Madhya Pradesh Fibres Ltd., Bhopal	Jhabua (Madhya Pradesh)	15,000
10	M/s Karnataka State Industrial Investment and Development Corporation Limited, Bangalore.	Karantaka	15,000
11	M/s Punjab Polyfibres Ltd., Chandigarh	Hoshiarpur (Punjab)	15,000
12	M/s Reliance Textile Industries Ltd., Bombay	Raigad (Maharashtra)	45,000

Spot purchase of crude

1178. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEE-NA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the crude prices are heading for a slide; despite a 15 per cent rise since the last meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in January last;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make spot purchases in the context of the foreseeable drop in crude prices; and

(c) if so, the quantity anticipated for such purchase and the countries of purchase; and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) The international crude prices continue to be fluid and the differential between the official prices and the spot prices has narrowed down.

(b) and (c) Roughly one third of our requirements is purchased in the spot market. No countries can be specified as spot trading is generally done by traders.

Assistance to SSI units

1179. SHRI BADRI NARAYAN PRADHAN: Will the Minister of IN-

DUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of assistance given to SSI units in the matter of production, exports and imports under the new Import Policy for 1985-86 as compared to the 1984-85 Import Policy;

(b) the reasons for the increase in the threshold limit for recognition as on Export House of SSI units from Rs. 50 lakhs to Rs. 75 lakhs; and

(c) the reasons for the deletion of the words '(v) to assist the small scale sector in export production' appearing in the Press Note dated the 12th April, 1984, issued in connection with the Import Policy 1984-85, from the New Import Policy for 1985-88?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) In order to encourage the export by SSI units, the following facilities are available in the Import Policy 1985-88:—

1. A lower prescribed minimum limit has been laid down in the case of SSI units for the purpose of grant of Export House Certificate. This limit is Rs. 75 lakhs in the case of Select Products and Rs. 3.00 crores respectively for large scale units.

2. While determining the eligibility of an applicant for an Export House Certificate, other than a SSI manufacturer, the value of exports of the products made by SSI units is reckoned at twice the actual FOB value of such exports.

3. For the purpose of grant of Additional Licences also to Export Houses/Trading Houses etc. weightage is given to the FOB value of the export of Select products manufactured by small scale and cottage industries.

4. A new scheme known as the Entrepreneurs Merchant Exporters' (EME's) was introduced during 1984-85 to encourage the export of low value select products manufactured by SSI/Cottage Sector Units. Under this scheme it was provided that the EME's having the minimum export performance laid-down, would be eligible to the grant of Additional Licences at the prescribed rate for meeting the requirements of their exporting manufacturers. The scheme has been made more liberal in the Import Policy, 1985-88.

5. Two or more SSI units can form a consortia of Export House with a lower prescribed value limits.

(b) Consequent with the increase in the value of capital investment for Small Scale Industry from Rs. 20 lakhs, the SSI units recognised as Export Houses are expected to have at least a minimum export performance of Rs. 75 lakhs. This increase has also taken into account the inflationary pattern—specially as no change had been made in the minimum export performance level in the earlier two years.

(c) There is no specific reason for the deletion of the words referred to in the question from the Press Note issued in connection with the new Import Policy. There is no detraction from the facilities made available to the SSI units under Import Policy as from the last Policy.

Faulty working of 27-Telephone Exchanges

1180. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that telephone lines on 27-Exchanges covering the press area on Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg and the Offices on Kotla Road in Delhi are very faulty and do not work for days together;

(b) whether it is also a fact that even after complaints were made in writing to the Minister by a Member of Parliament on the 8th May, 1984, there has been no improvement in the situation;

(c) whether it is a fact that demands have been made for replacement of PABX machine in offices in Kotla Road;

(d) if so what are the reasons for not replacing the same; and

(e) what remedial steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The lines of 27 exchange do not remain faulty for days together. However, Delhi Gate exchanges are having high traffic subscribers causing overload of the system. Therefore, in order to give relief to these exchange, some areas are being transferred to other exchanges. The Press Area of Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg is being transferred to Kidwai Bhawan Electronic Exchange.

(b) No such complaint is pending for disposal. However, steps are being taken to improve the functioning of 27 exchange by transferring some of the load to other exchanges and upgrading it.

(c) No, Sir. No specific demand seems to have been received for replacement of PABX Board in Kotla Road.