

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE), (a) and (b) Madias Fertilizers Limited (MFL) are considering a proposal for expansion of their existing fertilizer plant at Madras based on the additional Naphtha which will be available after the expansion of the Madras Refineries Project. The alternative capacities being considered by them are to set up either a 1350 tonnes per day or a 900 tonnes per day ammonia plant for conversion either only to urea or partly to urea and partly to DAP. It may, however, be mentioned that in the course of the last year, MFL suffered considerable loss in production due to inadequate supply of water as the water for the plant had to be diverted for use in Madras town.

Bombay-Loni petroleum pipeline

198. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH; Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work regarding the laying of Bombay-Loni petroleum pipeline is not proceeding as per schedule;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) by when the work on this pipeline is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI SHIV SHANKAR): (a) to (c) According to the revised schedule the pipeline laying work has to be completed by December, 1984, and it is expected to be completed in time.

Payment of interim relief to —employees of Rehabilitation Industries Corporation

199. SHRI ARABINDA GHOSH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for which the employees of the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation (RIC) Ltd. have not been paid the interim relief as per Government of India, Ministry of Finance O.M. No. 7(39)III/83 dated the 28th November, 1983;

(b) whether any report has been submitted by the Committee on Public Undertakings regarding Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Ltd. or any suggestion given by the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Unions for better performance by the said Corporation; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMAVIR):

(a) Interim relief was sanctioned by the Government to its employees pending receipt of the report of the Fourth Pay Commission. Interim relief is not in the nature of the Dearness Allowance. Public Sector Enterprises are not in the purview of the Pay Commission, and therefore, the question of grant of interim relief to public sector enterprises merely on the basis of the orders issued for interim relief to Government-servants does not arise. Moreover, such public sector enterprises receive allowances like House Rent Allowance at higher rates. Government policy is that all public enterprises should switch over to the Industrial DA pattern. The enterprises following the Central DA pattern can submit their proposals for revision of scales of pay along with adoption of the Industrial DA formula. Government is prepared to consider fairly and objectively any proposal for interim payments pending revision of scales of pay on switch-over to the Industrial DA on a time bound basis on the merits of each case.

(b) and (c) The Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings on Rehabilitation Industries Corporation has already been laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 30-4-1984.

Suggestions have recently been received from the RIC Labour Unions for supply of raw materials to the production units of the Corporation, payment of statutory dues, etc. In this connection, it may be stated that Government of India had released working capital loan aggregating to Rs. 72.00 lakhs during the financial year 1983-84 for supply of raw materials to the production units of the Corporation.