

(b) if so, what action has been or is being taken against the company for non-compliance; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to get the export bond executed by the company and what is the anticipated time to be taken for the compliance of the export bond condition by the company?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) to (c) In 1960, M/s. Pfizer Limited was granted a licence for the manufacture of Tetracycline. Thereafter expansions were granted in 1965 and 1967. The licence issued in 1967 for their second expansion proposal was subject to the following export conditions:

(i) Production in excess of 10 tonnes of tetracycline shall be exported, unless Govt. by prior approval give permission to sell any parts of it in the country; in the first year four tonnes must be exported;

(ii) Irrespective of the actual quantity of Tetracycline exported from the second year onward as above, a total of Rs 15 lakhs annually must be exported as an average over five years of tetracycline and other items of pharmaceuticals. This export of Rs. 15 lakhs should be over and above the current level of export;

(iii) The commencement to export 25 per cent of the initial capacity of 10 tonnes of tetracyclines in value remains. There would however be no objection to the export of Tetracycline and other items of Pharmaceuticals provided the total value of 2500 kgs of Tetracycline will be calculating factor.

No specific condition for executing an export bond was laid down. However the question of execution of export bond and fulfilment of export obligation by the firm on the basis of conditions indicated above is receiving

the active consideration of the Government and a decision is likely to be taken soon.

Expansion of the Bombay High Project

337. SHRI JANARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission propose to enter into an agreement for long term consultancy with a Government owned French firm for the expansion of the Bombay High project; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): (a) A proposal in this regard has been received from CFP of France.

(b) It is not in the public interest to disclose any details in the matter at this stage.

Import of rigs

338. SHRI JANARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to import rigs to step up its programme of oil exploration in the country; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): (a) and (b) In addition to two American rigs which are in transit orders have recently been placed for two Romanian rigs. However, in order to encourage indigenous capability, a letter of intent has been sent to BHEL for supply of seven rigs.