

tuna and other fish processing facilities, deep sea fishing and processing, setting up of cold-chain, Research and Development in Food Processing and packaging and manpower in certain sectors.

Crude Oil From Rava Oil Field in K.G. BASIN

2099. S H R I SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated quantity of crude oil that may be available from 'Rava Oil Field' and other Oil fields in K.G. Basin;

(b) the quantum of crude oil production as on March 31, 1994 from this K.G. Basin;

(c) the reasons for not drawing out the optimum quantity of crude from this basin; and

(d) the steps taken to extract the maximum quantity that can be drawn keeping in view the need to reduce the foreign exchange out-go on import of crude oil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) As on 1.4.1994, balance recoverable reserves of crude oil in Rava field and other fields in KG basin were about 17.92 million tonnes.

(b) ONGC has produced about 0.256 million tonnes of crude oil from KG onshore and KG offshore till March 1994.

(c) The annual crude oil production targets are based on the optimum production potential of different fields.

(d) For optimal exploitation of crude oil, ONGC is taking requisite action like well servicing/repair/work-over, well stimulation and installation/repair of artificial lift. Government has also offered development of some of the small and medium sized oil fields in KG basin both onshore and offshore through JVCs/private parties.

S.T.D. Phones with Electronic Exchanges

2100. SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI THAKORE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat Telecom has a proposal to connect all STD phones with an electronic exchange;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some other Telecom circles have also implemented this proposal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All STD phones in Gujarat Telecom. Circle are proposed to be progressively connected with electronic exchanges by March, 1997. 26 electronic exchanges planned in 1994-95 for expansion of Telephone systems where electromechanical exchanges are working at present are likely to serve STD subscribers of these electromechanical exchanges.

(c) and (d) No. Sir. However other Telecom circles are also drawing plans for meeting the objective of connecting all STD phones to electronic exchanges by March, 1997.

[Translation]

Import of L.P.G. and Kerosene

2169. SHRI RAMNIHORE RAI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the companies in private sector in the country permitted to import L.P.G. and Kerosene alongwith the quantity thereof;

(b) whether private companies are importing L.P.g. and Kerosene at a less price than that by public sector companies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) Under the Parallel Marketing System, private agencies have been allowed to import LPG and kerosene and to sell them at market determined prices. They are not required to obtain any permission from the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for this purpose. However, they will have to obtain necessary approvals under the relevant Acts and Rules regarding safety, pollution control etc. as applicable.

(b) and (c) The details of the price at which these products are imported by private agencies are not maintained by the Government.

Neelam Project of O.N.G.C.

[English]

2170. S H R I SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether O.N.G.C.'s Neelam project has been commissioned recently;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and

the total estimated cost of the project;

(c) the cost of materials and labour separately; and

(d) the steps being taken for completion of the project on schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The handling capacity of the project is :-

Oil	12000 BOPD
Gas	2.6 MMSCMD
Water	229000 BWPD

Peak production from the project shall be 4.5 MMTPA of oil and 1.8 MMSCMD of gas.

The estimated cost of the project approved by Govt. is Rs. 3541.85 crores.

(c) The project was executed on turn-key basis at a lumpsum price.

(d) Does not arise.

L.P.G. Connections In M.P.

[Translation]

2171. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of L.P.G. agencies functioning at present in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the number of L.P.G. connections issued during last three years in the State; and

food processing sector for the last three years, year-wise? and state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Broadly the food processing industries include cereals and pulses processing including milling, oil milling, edible oils, fats like vanaspati, cereals and pulses based products, fruits, vegetables and nuts processing, spices processing, bakery products, pasta products, edible starch, sorbitol, soya based products, milk products, baby food, weaning food, malted food, meat, poultry and egg processing, fish processing, fermented foods, potable alcohol, beer, wines, carbonated and non-carbonated beverages and waters and other beverages, cocoa products, confectionery, sweets, snack foods, fast foods, ready-to-eat foods, sugar, gur, khandasari and other sugar, honey processing, certain food additives like edible guar gum, etc.

Some of the above industries however do not come under the purview of this Ministry.

(b) The State-wise information is not

being centrally maintained.

Alumina Plant in Andhra Pradesh

2225. S H R I SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of bauxite available in our country state-wise;

(b) whether any proposal for the setting up of an alumina plant in North Coastal Andhra Pradesh has been lying pending with the Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the project proposal will be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) As per National Mineral Inventory, recoverable reserves of bauxite in India as on 1.4.1990 are given below:-

State	(Unit : '000 tonnes) Bauxite reserves
Andhra Pradesh	592,001
Bihar	61,104
Goa	28,089
Gujarat	107,744
Jammu & Kashmir	1,783
Karnataka	27,416
Kerala	140,791
Madhya Pradesh	140,791
Maharashtra	87,250

State	(Unit : '000 tonnes) Bauxite reserves
Meghalaya	896
Orissa	1,442,276
Rajasthan	318
Tamil Nadu	18,327
Uttar Pradesh	9,420

(b) to (d) The following three applications have been received by the Government for setting up of 100% export Oriented Alumina projects in the State of Andhra Pradesh:-

received by the Government till date ;

(c) whether some foreign companies have sought reduction in royalty rates; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Any company registered in India is eligible for grant of prospecting licence/mining lease in respect of non-fuel and non-atomic minerals.

(b) The Government has not received any assurance from foreign investors.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Periodical revision in the rates of the royalty on minerals is made as per the relevant provisions of the MM (R&D) Act, 1957.

- (i) M/s. Hindustan Development Corporation (HDC)
- (ii) M/s. Birla Technical Services (BTS); and
- (iii) M/s. Kandula Aluminium Company Limited.

M/s. HDC have since withdrawn their application. The remaining two applications are for setting up of Alumina Plants in the coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh and are under consideration of the Government.

Foreign Investment in Mining

[Translation]

2226. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA) :
SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the major and minor minerals that can be offered for exploitation by the multinationals;

(b) the foreign investment assurance

Production And Consumption of Gold

2227. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the locations and other details of gold mines in the country;

(e) to (g). Urea continues to be under Statutory price control and there is no change in the administration of subsidy of urea. The phosphatic and potassic fertilisers were decontrolled in August, 1992. A scheme of concession on decontrolled fertilisers was started from Rabi 1992-93 to offset the price increase. It was implemented during 1993-94 and is continued during 1994-95. Under this scheme during the first two years concession was routed through State Governments for being paid to fertiliser manufacturers after supply/distribution of fertilisers in different State by manufacturers. Some of the States did not make payment to the manufacturers even after the fertilisers were supplied/distributed in their States. To ensure that fertiliser supply is not discontinued owing to non-payment of concession on the quantities supplied/distributed, Govt. of India has decided to make payments to the manufacturers during 1994-95 for the fertilisers supplied/distributed. State Governments are required to decide the price, quantities and ensure the quality of fertilisers to be supplied to their farmers by different manufacturers/ importers in case of MOP.

Prices of Fertilizers

2276. DR. P.R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of various kinds of fertilizers have been increased during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the names of these fertilizers and the extent of increase made in their prices;

(c) the effect of such increase in the prices of fertilizers on the farmers, agriculture and production of crops; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check this unremunerative effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). Government increased prices of Urea (46% N), Anhydrous Ammonia and Zincated Urea with effect from 10.6.94. The increase was 20%.

(c) and (d). Effect of this increase has not come to the notice as yet. Rather it is expected that there will be no adverse effect on the consumption of these fertilisers. With good rains and better support prices for food grains, consumption of fertilizers is expected to be better during current year than last year.

[English]

Buddhist Archaeological Remnants

2277. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Buddhist Archaeological remnants were found at Jajjuru Village, Verulapadu Mandal, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of these copings have been stolen; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Originally five limestone coping slabs were found, out of which four were broken into two pieces each. Subsequently, two more coping slabs have been found, out of which one is broken into pieces. Besides, two casing slabs of a stupa have also been found.

(c) Out of nine pieces which were originally found at the site, four have been stolen (one intact coping, two pieces of another coping and one-half of the third coping slab).

(d) The village Administrative Officer Jajjuru lodged a formal complaint of the theft with Mandal Revenue Officer, Veerula Padu Mandal. Though the site is not Centrally protected, the Conservation Assistant, Archaeological Survey of India, Sub-Circle, Vijayawada and Superintending Archaeologist, Archaeological Survey of India, Hyderabad Circle subsequently lodged complaints of the theft with the police authorities and the district authorities of Krishna District, Machilipatnam, Andhra Pradesh. Besides, the Custom Department at the International Exit-points in the country as well as Central Bureau of Investigation have been alerted.

Cotton Cultivation

2278. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to grow cotton in the non-traditional areas; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the plan to be drawn up in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b). There is no specific proposal as yet to grow cotton in

non-traditional areas. However, demonstrations are being organised through Intensive Cotton Development Programme in Rice-Fallow areas.

Widening of National Highway No. 5

2279. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Government of Orissa proposed to fell down scores of trees for widening the National Highway No. 5;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any clearance has been taken from the Union Government in this regard;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have received representations from the environmentalists in this regard;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). The matter was taken up with the State Government who have informed that extensive or indiscriminate felling of trees was not done; rather utmost care was taken to minimise the same.

Wagon Orders

2346. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have sought Prime Minister's intervention in regard to the shortfall in orders for wagons which have adversely effected the movement of products in their States; and

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken to make available sufficient wagons for those States?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir. The Chief Minister of West Bengal had addressed the Prime Minister requesting for intervention in the matter of placement of wagon orders. But there has been no reference about adverse effect on movement of products/commodities.

(b) The Chief Minister of West Bengal has been appraised of the current scenario of wagon procurement. Wagon availability is sufficient to meet the traffic demands.

Intach Publication on Tehri Dam

2347. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) has brought out a publication regarding the possible seismic effects of Tehri Dam;

(b) whether the Government have taken note of the expert views collated therein;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The book brought out by INTACH entitled "Earthquake Hazard and Large Dams in the Himalayas" is a compilation of views expressed by eminent scientists on issues relating to seismicity and safety of dams in the Himalayan region. The safety aspects of Tehri Dam project were considered by a High Level Committee constituted by the Government and their report of July, 1994 reveals that the design of the dam has been subjected to peak ground acceleration of 0.5g and found satisfactory.

Railway Track Site

2348. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation and Citizens Committee have been requesting the Railway Board to hand over the railway track site via Satya Narayan Puram to enable it to develop it into a 80 feet wide road connecting National Highway No. 5 and National Highway No. 9;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the latest response of the Railway Board to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request involves removal of 3 kilometres of railway track and relinquishment of railway land measuring 10.25 hectare to the Municipal Corporation of Vijayawada for formation of road.

(c) The request can be agreed to if the Municipal Corporation agrees to bear the cost of removal of the track and construction of a third line parallel to the existing Waltair-Vijayawada main line and hands over to the Railway an equivalent area of land in exchange.

Jajpur-Keonjhar and Talcher Line

2349. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have ordered survey work for a rail link between Jajpur-Keonjhar Road and Talcher in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the survey work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Traffic Survey has been taken up.

(c) Within the financial year 94-95.

Levy Sugar

2350. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to change the present system of 60:40 free sale and levy sugar as per levy allotment orders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to make available sufficient stock of sugar for sale through Public Distribution System?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). At present there is no proposal to change the ratio of 60:40 of free sale to levy sugar as the present system is functioning satisfactorily.

(d) Arrangements have been made to import the required quantity of levy sugar through STC/MMTC to ensure that Public Distribution System supplies are maintained at the present level.

Howrah Railway Station

2351. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway did not comply with the direction for pollution control at the Howrah Railway Station; and

(b) if so, the remedial and penal measures taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). The matter relating to setting up of pollution control measures by Howrah Railway Station is being reviewed by the Honourable Supreme Court in Public Interest Litigation Petition No. 3727 of 1985-M.C. Mehta Versus Union of India. Earlier, for not complying with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court for pollution control at Howrah Rail-

FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of that large parts of the hillocks and hills in many mountain ranges are being destroyed for town developments and industrial purposes, thus harming the ecological and environmental equilibrium in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to prevent the destruction of the mountain ranges and the preservation of the environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Conservation of mountain ranges from ecological point of view is receiving attention of the Government as reflected in the National Conservation Strategy, formulated in 1992. Measures taken to conserve the mountain ranges include:

Issuing of guidelines for carrying out different activities;

Issuing of notification under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, for governing developmental activities in some critical areas such as Doon Valley and certain portion of Aravalli Range;

Enforcement of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;

Afforestation of denuded hills; and

Assisting Gobind Ballabh Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development for developing strategies, technologies and knowledge for

ecologically sound development of the Himalayan region.

Over-Bridge on Vijayawada Railway Line

2380. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned the construction of road over-bridge in place of level crossing at Ajit Singh Nagar near Vijayawada on Vijayawada-Aluru railway line;

(b) the estimated amount incurred thereon; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Expenditure upto the end of March '94 is Rs. 12.41 lakhs (approximately).

(c) Railway will take up physical construction work on bridge across Railway tracks after finalisation of pre-requisite formalities and commencement of work on the approaches by the State Government.

Neem Trees

2381. SHRI S M LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate an incentive scheme to encourage the plantation of neem trees;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether majority of agricultural sci-

(b) For bifurcation of the train at Bathinda and running one portion to Fazilka.

(c) Examined but not found feasible due to operational constraints.

Hybrid Seeds

2394. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of quality seeds, particularly of hybrid cotton seeds and paddy seeds, have abnormally risen in Andhra Pradesh during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to develop the hybrid seeds and make them available to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). The prices of quality seeds only in respect of hybrid cotton seed have gone up considerably whereas no such increase in prices of paddy seeds have taken place in Andhra Pradesh during the last one year. The increase in price of hybrid cotton seeds is only due to the following reasons:

- (i) greater demand in Andhra Pradesh and neighbouring regions due to better yield of cotton crop last year;
- (ii) diversion of some area from tobacco and Gingelly to cotton crop.

(c) Special Research and Development Programme has been launched since December, 1989, to provide thrust to development and production of hybrid seeds. Simultaneously area under hybrid seeds is also being increased and these will ensure better availability of hybrid seeds. Simultaneously area under hybrid seeds is also being increased and these will ensure better availability of hybrid seeds to farmers at reasonable prices.

[*Translation*]

Railway Quarters

2395. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of Railway quarters are lying vacant in different Railway zones since 1987-88;

(b) if so, the details thereof; Zone-wise;

(c) the expenditure being incurred on House rent allowance and rent etc. every year on account of vacant quarters;

(d) the details of instruction issued by the Government to the Area Housing committees in this regard and to ensure allotment of these quarters to the deserving Railway employees; and

(e) the action taken against erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.