

**Drilling at Aliabet Island**

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- \*1131. { Shri Subodh Hansda:  
Shri S. C. Samanta:  
Shri Sudhansu Das:  
Shri Maheswar Naik:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether the off-shore drilling has started in the Island of Aliabet in the gulf of Cambay;

(b) whether this is being done by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission; and

(c) whether there is any collaboration with technicians of West Asian countries?

**The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir):**

(a) No, Sir. The proposed well is to be drilled on land.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Shri Subodh Hansda:** Since it was found from a preliminary survey that there are prospects of oil being found in the Aliabet Island, may I know why it has not been decided by the Government to drill in that area?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** I am afraid the hon. Member did not listen to what I said. I have said that there will be a well drilled on land.

**Off-Shore Drilling**

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- \*1132. { Shri N. R. Laskar:  
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:  
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:  
Shri Bishwanath Roy:  
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:  
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:  
Shri Murli Manohar:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to start off-shore drilling at Port Canning near Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the phased programme therefor?

**The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir):**

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri N. R. Laskar:** The then Minister in-charge of Oil told us in April, 1963 that they will start from the point where the Stanvac personnel left, and so, may I know whether any progress has been made up till now there?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** The position is that the re-study of the material which had been collected by the Stanvac project indicated to the ONGC that there are some potentialities in Port Canning area, and therefore, it has been decided to make preparatory arrangements to drill a well in a place which is about six miles north-west of Port Canning.

**Shri N. R. Laskar:** When do they propose to dig the well? May I know the target date?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** It is difficult to give the target date. The arrangements we have made is to place a rig in position perhaps before the monsoon. During the monsoon it will not be possible to drill a well in this area. So, the well is likely to be drilled after the monsoons are over.

**श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा:** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस काम के लिए विदेश से कोई सहायता ली गई है ; अगर हाँ, तो कितनी ?

**श्री हुमायून कबिर :** श्री० एन० ज़ी० सी० को ड्रिलिंग का काफी तज़ुर्बा हो गया है । जहाँ दरकार होता है, वहाँ हम बाहर से सहायता लेते हैं । यहाँ पर कुछ काम करने के बाद मालूम होगा कि किसी सहायता की दरकार है या नहीं ।

**Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:** May I know, apart from the off-shore drilling in this particular place, whether any attempt is being made by the