

pineapple processing units by the Pineapple Marketing Cooperative Society Limited, Kottayam Kerala. An amount of Rs. 7.33 lakhs was released to National Cooperative Development Corporation (N.C.D.C.) for meeting a part of the capital expenditure on this project in 1991-92.

2. Grant-in-aid to Government of Kerala for Rs. 49.5 lakhs during 1991-92 was provided for establishment of infrastructural facilities like cold chains at major fish landing centre and major consuming centres and insulated transport for preservation, transportation and marketing of marine fish covering 6 districts in the State of Kerala.

3. Grant-in-aid to Government of Kerala for Rs. 45 lakhs during 1991-92 was provided for establishment of trash fish projects in 5 district conversion of low value fish into high value products.

4. A proposal of Integrated Horticulture Development Programme in Kerala with EEC assistance have been finalised and a contract has been entered into with the EEC for assistance to the tune of 28.6 million ECU. The proposal, inter alia, includes setting up of 8 pilot projects including fruit processing projects in different sites of Kerala.

1992-93.

5. Two proposals have been received in the current financial year through the State Government from M/s. Meat products India Ltd, a Kerala State Government Undertaking for seeking assistance for setting up of:

(a) A buffalo meat processing projects at Chelakudy, District Trichur and

(b) A poultry processing project in Ernakulam on which actions have been initiated.

### Oil Exploration

\*131. SHRIMATIVASUNDHARRAJE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the on-going oil exploration projects on the Indo- Pak border of Rajasthan;

(b) whether gas and hydro-carbon are also being explored in that area;

(c) if so, the approximate oil, gas and hydro-carbon reserves discovered in the entire arid zone of Indo-Pak border of Rajasthan; and

(d) the steps taken to tap the entire oil, gas and hydro -carbon potentials of that border area?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) Exploration for oil and gas in western Rajasthan contiguous to Indo-Pak border has been going in phases since 1956 first by ONGC alone and subsequently from 1984-85 by both ONGC and OIL.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) ONGC has established 2.06 billion cubic meters (BCM) ON NATURAL GAS reserves Rajasthan. OIL has established in-place reserves of 8.1 million tonnes of crude oil (Heavy Oil) and 6.9 billion cubic meters of natural gas in the area.

(d) Government have decided to offer the heavy oil field discovered in Rajasthan for development under joint venture arrangement to private companies. 50,000 cubic meters per day of gas from the Manhera Tibba field of ONGC has been allocated for a power plant at Ramgarh.