(c) and (d) The viability of oil and associated gas is assessed together.

DR. ASIM BALA : Sir, the first question is really contradictory of (c) and (d). It is mentioned against part (a) : There is no such proposal with ONGC at present. And against (c) and (d), the reply is : The viability of oil and associated gas is assessed together.

It is just contradictory. I do not know what reply the Minister will give.

I would like to know whether it is true that the Project Development India Limited is executing a gas leak compressor plant. If so, what will be its cost?

Secondly, there is a mention of assessment about the viability of oil and associated gas. What will be the result of that assessment?

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, there is no contradiction in what I have answered. The hon. Member's question is very clear in as much as it talks about the resuscitation of the old oil wells from gas production. That is what it says. The gas and oil both come out from the oil well. So, it is not only a question of oil coming out or only gas coming out. Sometimes there are constraints. There are some blockages. There are technical problems where oil is blocked or water comes in. Whatever it may be, this happens.

Where the question of production is concerned, there has been gas production and gas is also being flared. About 70 per cent of the gas is being flared. This shows that with this high figure of 70 per cent being flared, there is a short upliftment. The upliftment of gas, which is coming out, is not being taken by consumers. Therefore, no proposal has been made to resuscitate the gas production from the old oil wells.

Since this question is on gas, I have answered it where gas is concerned. Moreover, the oil wells in this particular area cannot produce free gas which is non-associated gas.

DR. ASIM BALA : I also want to know about the cost of production of gas which is not mentioned here. Even if we get the gas, what will be the area of operation or supply of that gas in that particular area?

SHRI KAMAL NATH : If we get non-associated gas, then we will come to prices, At the moment, there is no non-associated gas,

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Sir, ONGC is the world seventh highest oil producing company. The total demand of oil in the Eighth Plan will be 89.12 million tonnes and the total production in the country is around 37 million tonnes. That means we have to import about 43 million tonnes of oil. The main failure of ONGC lies in the inability to discover new sources. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister where there is any detailed exploration progamme of ONGC in this Eighth Plan.

MR. SPEAKER : This question is about old oil wells.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now it was about the new sources of oil and gas that...

MR. SPEAKER : No, the question is about old wells.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Sir, I am talking of the same thing only. Exploration was done in Dulli Patti in Madhubani district and Raxaul in Northen Bihar. I have just come to know that these wells are being closed and its office at Patna is also being shifted. I would therefore, like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government proposes to stop work on oil and gas and whether there will be no more exploration of gas and oil in northern Bihar in the Tarai region of Himalayas.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, exploration can be done only at the site where there are chances of availability. It is not a question of Bihar or any other State but depends upon geological characteristics.

[*English*]

SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA : Sir, as per the prognosticated report, Assam is very rich in oil and natural gas. The Minister says that there is no such proposal to resuscitate Rudrasagar oil wells. I want to know from the hon. Minister the number of wells that have been dug in the State of Assam and how much of gas is available from them totally. Secondly, is there any intention of the Government to construct gas turbine from the gas available in Adamtilla and Banskandi of Assam?

MR. SPEAKER : If you think that figures are available with you can give.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : I can give him some figures but I do not know whether they will satisfy him, or not. If they do not satisfy him, I will send it to him. In Upper Assam, including OIL and ONGC, the total prognosticated resources are 2690 million tonnes; as on 1-1-92, the geological reserves of oil and OEG are 1245 million tonnes and the ultimate recoverable reserves as on 1-1-92 of oil and OEG come to 426 million tonnes.

[*Translation*]

Central Ground Water Board

*325. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the progress and achievements made by the Central Ground Water Board during the last three years especially in respect of Reappraisal Hydrogeological Surveys and Hydrograph are less than the targets fixed;

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

(c) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Goverment in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Remedial measures include the modernisation of and increase in the number of driling equipment, training of personnel in the latest techniques of ground water exploration and development and consideration of the recommendations contained in the report of the High Level Multi-disciplinary Committee which was set up to review the organisational goals, objectives and the structure of the Central Ground Water Board.

STATEMENT

The details of targets and achievements under Reappraisal Hydrogeological Survey, Hydrograph Network Stations and Ground Water Exploration during last three Years

Sl. No.	Year	Activities					
		Reappraisal Hydro-geological Surveys		Hydrograph Network Station		Ground Water Exploration	
		Target	Achieve-ment	Target	Achieve-ment	Target	Achieve-ment
		(Areas in lakh sq.km.)		(No. of stations)		(No. of boreholes)	
1.	1990-91 . . .	2·14	1·07	1600	1197	867	691
2.	1991-92 . . .	2·58	2·35	1600	1349	881	782
3.	992-93 . . .	2·12	2·08	1070	983	887	851

The shortfall was due to the fact that more emphasis was given to completion of systematic Hydrogeological Survey of the Country and attending to the work of selection of sites for village water supply under the Technology Mission for Drinking Water and due to operational difficulties.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI : Sir, reappraisal hydrogeological surveys alongwith hydrograph network are very essential today because it is revealed that in different parts of the country, the water table is going down alarmingly and it is very much essential to recharge. In this context, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the amount earmarked in the Eighth Five Year Plan and what is the quantity of area earmarked or artificial recharging so that the water table which is going down, can again be recharged for the benefit of the people.

SHRI P. K. THUNGON: Sir, though this question does not exactly relate to recharging, I will try to satisfy the hon. Member. The Reappraisal Survey for the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93, shows an improvement in the achievement trend. In 1990-91 the target was 2.14 lakh sq. km. and achievement was 1.07 lakh sq. km. in 1991-92, against a target of 2 58 lakh sq. km., achievement was 2.35 lakh sq. km. and in 1992-93, while the target was 2.12 lakh sq. km. the achievement was 2.08 lakh sq. km. The precentage of achievement shows an improvement.

Recharging of ground water is a lengthy and technical process. Respective State Governments may send their proposals to us and we make an appraisal of those proposals. The States allot money from the State funds for the purpose of recharging work. Therefore, it is very difficult on my part to give the details of money allocated by State Governments.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Sir, the question is regarding the Central Groundwater Board. I think the duty of the Central Groundwater Board is to make a reappraisal of the hydrogeological survey as well as to make use of whatever survey they have made, in order to avoid any further indiscriminate use of water table which is already going down. in this context, I have also asked what is the amount that they have earmarked during the Eighth Five Year plan for the Central Groundwater Board....

MR. SPEAKER : Please try to understand that this has to be done by the States also.

SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI : I am asking about the Central Groundwater Board, I do understand that the State Groundwater Boards are also to be associated with its work. However, I would like to know about the amount that they have earmarked for the Central Groundwater Board to advise the States and to co-ordinate the work of different State Groundwater Boards so that there will not be any indiscriminate use of water resources.

I would also like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the Central Groundwater Board as well as the Ministry of Water Resources have circulated a Model Bill to the State Groundwater Boards so that they adopt the Bill and carry out all their work in a coordinated manner,

SHRI P. K. THUNGON : Sir, so far as the groundwater survey of the country is concerned, this is a very important subject. You will be glad to know that a systematic hydro-geological survey has been completed by the Central Groundwater Board in March 1991. This shows the importance that we have accorded to the water table and underground water resources. Another specific question that the hon. Member wanted to ask was about the Plan provision made in this Board for coordination and for advisory and assisting work.

Under the 8th Five Year Plan this Board has been allocated Rs. 257.8 crores. As I have already said, I cannot do anything with the allocation made out of the State Government's Budget.

So far as water table and importance of utilisation of these maps are concerned, general Survey Maps have already been prepared for the States like Assam and Tripura and they have been used extensively and beneficially also. We are in the process of preparing an Atlas for the other States also. I am sure this will satisfy the Member. It is very important for agriculture.

[Translation]

SHRI TEJSIGHRAO BHONSLE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that the survey was conducted and the hon. Minister has accepted that there were certain shortfalls. In Maharashtra the sanction has been accorded upto 200 feet...

MR. SPEAKER : The question pertains to the whole country. If you go specifically I do not know whether he has the figures or not.

[English]

SHRI TEJSINGHRAO BHONSLE : I am not going to ask any specific thing.

[Translation]

I am asking about the policy matter. According to the present policy loan will be given only after digging wells upto 200 feet, but in that area, especially in Vidarbha region the level of ground water is quite low. One has to dig below gunwara rocks upto about 500 feet. So I urge the Central Government to raise the level of sanction from 200 feet to upto 500 feet.

[English]

SHRI P. K. THUNGON: Sir, this subject is dealt with by the Ministry of Agriculture, I would not be able to give a proper reply.

[Translation]

Power to Coal Projects

*326. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Wil the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total power demand of coal projects during 1991-92 and 1992-93 and the total power supplied to them; and

(b) the efforts made by the Government to persuade the power suppliers for supply of adequate power to these coal projects ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Coal India Ltd. (CIL) have informed that the power requirements of all their subsidiaries are being met in full except in the case of Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) and Central Coalfields Limited (CCL). The details regarding demand and actual supply of power in respect of ECL, BCCL and CCL during the years 1991-92 and 1992-93 are as below :

Name of subsidiary Company	1991-92		1992-93	
	Demand in MVA	Supply in MVA	Demand in MVA	Supply in MVA
E.C.L.	120	97·6	120	93·9
B.C.C.L.	261	192·6	261	186·8
C.C.L.	128·5	109·6	128·5	106·3