

search having research on several types of medicines. Definitely this is good suggestion for action.

[*Translation*]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the disease cancer is spreading with grant strides but its cure is not being found with the matching promptness. I would like to submit to the Government this much that if it can not talk of curing cancer, it should at least distribute suggestive precautionary pamphlets in regional and vernacular languages. There are occasions when a letter written to the hon Minister of Health is not replied to for three or four months and the applicant dies waiting a response. I would like to know from the Government whether it should issue some instructions to send money to the concerned hospital within 15 days of the receipt of an application.

MR. SPEAKER: No, this question is not in order.

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, some Government institutes are playing an important role for treatment of cancer. For example, the cancer Institute at Varanasi of the North-East Railway is carrying on very good research. But it is regrettable that it lacks in some proper experts, equipments doctors and drugs. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the hospitals-whether there are sum by central Government, State Government the grants will be able to function properly or not.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you want ask whether the funds will be provided or not?

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Would the Government provide adequate

funds to these institutes? Secondly, I would like to submit that the Ayurvedic Institute of Sir Sunderlal Hospital in Varanashi has made a very significant research for the sure-sort treatment of cancer patients and mentally retarded children. America also has commended the treatment. This institute has applied for some assistance to the Government of India. If it gets assistance from the Government it can propagate its research in Bihar and other Eastern parts of the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what action was taken on the application and whether such institutes will be provided with adequate assistance.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER. Reply to the last part of the question can be sent in writing. To the first part, you can give the reply.

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Sir, the hon. Member has mentioned about one hospital that belongs to the Railway. According to our scheme, we help the medical colleges and other State Government organisations. I have to find out about this and I shall let the hon. Member know about it.

[*Translation*]

### Oil Exploration

\*562. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:

SHRI REJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in the country in which the Government propose to explore oil;

(b) the quantity of oil and gas being

produced in the country everyday; and

(c) the extent to which production of oil and gas is estimated to be increased by the end of 1994-95?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of House.

(a) In the remaining years of VIII Plan period, ONGC Ltd. and OIL propose to explore for oil and gas in the on land basins/ areas of Cambay & Saurashtra in Gujarat; South Rewa in Madhya Pradesh; Himalyan fold belt in Himachal Pradesh; Upper Assam and Assam-Arakan fold belt in Assam; Nagaland; Tripura, Mizoram and Arunchal Pradesh; Krishna-Godavari in Andhra Pradesh; Cauvery in Tamil Nadu and Bengal Basin in West Bengal, Ganga Valley Basin in U. P. and Bihar, Shahgarh- Miljlar, Jaisalmer, Bikaner- Nagaur Basins in Rajasthan; and in offshore areas of Mahanadi, Krishna-Godavari and cauvey Basins along the East Coast and I Bombay, Kerala-Konkan and Kutch-Saurashtra Basins along the West Coast.

(b) The average daily (current level of total) production respectively of crude oil and gas in 1993-94 was 74043 MT and 50.23 MMSCM.

(c) The Oil and gas production is expected to reach te level of 32.51 MMT per annum and 51.86 MMSCMD respectively in 1994-95.

[Translation]

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether the production of oil and gas in the country is sufficient to meet the demand? If not the projects formulated by the Government to increase the production of Oil and gas and whether the Government have taken foreign assistance in this regard? If so, from which countries?

[English]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, I would like to convey to the hon. Member, through you that in the last few years, our production has suffered.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

I am glad to say that from this year our production of oil will start increasing. Earlier we produced 27 million. M. T. oil but from this year the production of oil will be increased by 5 million M. T. The steps being taken in this regard include the measures for increasing the oil production as well as exploration of the new oil fields. It is very essential because the production of oil will increase by 5 million M. T. annually but the main problem is that we are not been able to find any new oil field. So far, Bombay High is our last oil field which is also called giant field. But we have not been able to discover any new field. We are formulating a National Exploration plan to discover new areas of oil fields.

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my second question is that by when our country will become self-sufficient in the oil and gas field. The second important thing I would like to know that whether he would consider to close

down the oil and natural gas project in Agra to save Taj Mahal, Agra and Firozabad from the dangers of pollution. (Interruptions.)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. There is no use of speaking like this way. Nothing is going on the record.

[English]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, the hon. Member has asked in his second supplementary whether there are any foreign companies which have been involved in assisting in the oil production in the country. There are various schemes, such as, the Development of discovered Oil fields Program' where we have many international companies coming in.

In the Bombay High the producing field has become old field. When a field becomes old, the decline in production starts. We have some major companies who are bidding to give the appropriate modern technology. After all, the capital required is massive. It is in billions of dollars. We have CHEVERON; we have AMOCO and we have OCCIDENTAL. These are all giant companies which are bidding and the evaluations are going on. That will be completed in a few months and then we will decide which gives us the best bid to improve the production out of Bombay High.

The second part of question is about Agra. As far as the Agra Trapezium is concerned, we are aware of it. This matter had gone upto the Supreme Court. I am personally concerned and I would do all that I can. The problem is of natural gas. As soon as we have additional quantities of natural gas available. I can assure the hon. Member that I will make sure that Agra and that area gets the highest priority.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the production of oil is quite essential because we have to import oil worth crores of rupees. In this reply hon. Minister has sated that scheme has been formulated for oil exploration in various states of the country. The scheme is under consideration. I would like to ask a question. Please State how much amount has been spent during the last three years on oil and gas exploration in Ganges valley basin of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and how much money is likely to be spent thereon in the near future and whether foreign companies have been invited for oil exploration or any discussion is going on in this regard.

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: State Government is not held responsible for oil exploration work. There are 26 sedimentary basins in the country. The work of oil exploration is going on in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. But much oil has not been explored from this area and efforts are still going on. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNOHOTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it was not my question.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member wants to know the amount spent on it. Please send him in writing.

Now Shri Suraynarayana Yadav.

11.29hrs.

*At this stage some slogans from the Public Gallery were heard and a visitor from the public Galley jumped on floor of the House.*

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Order please. Members may take their seats. Shri Suryanarayanan Yadav may continue his question.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYANARAYANA YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in his reply hon. Minister has said that oil exploration has been taken up in offshore area of Ganga. I would like to say that oil fields are there at Saharsa, Supol, Madhubani, Darbhanga, Purniya, Samastipur and Katihar in Northern Bihar. Scientists have discovered and authenticated it. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether any arrangement has been made for exploration of oil fields in those areas. If so, whether oil fields has been discovered and if so the present position in this regard.

[*Eng. lish*]

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, the hon. Member is from Bihar and I am personally monitoring the type of seismic survey work which is planned for future in Bihar and West Bengal and some of the other States which feel that they are not getting their due as far as the exploration efforts are concerned. Let me just share with hon. Member, Sir, that as far as the exploration efforts in Bihar are concerned, so far the ONGC has carried out.

7396 SLK/ LK seismic survey apart from aero-magnetic, ground-magnetic and geological surveys. Six exploratory wells have been drilled without any commercial success and the ONGC has incurred an expenditure of Rs.70.56 crores on the exploration activities in Bihar till 31st march, 1993. The Oil India Limited, as he said, has started exploration in Ganga Valley Basin which also cover some areas in the State of

Bihar. Having said that, I want to assure the Member that in future I would like to have more scientific and comprehensive survey which is called 30 work also done in West Bengal and Bihar so that we do not leave anything to chance as far as Bihar and West Bengal are concerned.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Sir, it has been mentioned that the ONGC LPD is exploring the offshore area of Mahanadi in Orissa. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to when this Mahanadi Basin has been identified and when the exploration work will start in that area.

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, as far as Mahanadi area of coast (NEC) concerned, I can reassure the Member through you, Sir, that it has been taken up in the Eighteen Five Year Plan for exploration by Oil India. The work will be completed before the Eighth Five Year Plan is over which is 1977. We have got only three years to go; not only the work will start, but it will be completed before that.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether the government have launched any time bound programme for oil and natural gas exploration in various areas by O.N. G. C and OIL? Whether any exploration work has been started in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan? If so, the outcome thereof? Whether any exploration work at Narmada offshore will be taken up?

MR. SPEAKER: There are three parts of one question which can be treated as three questions also.

CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA: Sir,

I will start my answer with Rajasthan because I would like to share with the member my own personal expectation of the area. We have had some very exciting discoveries there. The problem is, I want to share with the House, that Rajasthan we have found both gas and oil and the oil which we have found in Rajasthan is heavy oil. Such heavy oil is being processed by some of the countries China is processing it and Venezuela is also processing it. Canada is quite advanced in this area. The Alberta Research Council from Canada has made a report on the heavy oil in Rajasthan. The report has come in and we are studying the report. In the meantime, informally I am in touch with the Chinese and Venezuelans to see which is the appropriate technology that can exploit the oil in Rajasthan, So, I share the Member's excitement as far as Rajasthan. So, I share the Member's excitement as far as Rajasthan in concerned, because we have made discoveries there.

As far as Madhya Pradesh is concerned, in the Eighth Five Year Plan, Madhya Pradesh is also covered in the exploration. The South Rewa is part of the our exploration programme for the Eighth Five Year Plan.

[English]

#### Oil Field

\* 563 SHRI BOLLA BULLI  
RAMAIAH:  
SHRI HARIN PATHAK:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bids received from Indian and foreign companies for oil fields offered under the second round of bidding;

b) the details of the companies which

have applied for ;

c) whether any decision has been taken regarding offering of oil fields to these companies;

d) if so, the details of oil fields offered to Indian and foreign companies , separately; and

e) if not the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS ( CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA:(a) to (e) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) 54 bids have been received from 11 foreign and 19 Indian companies.

(b) The list of companies which have submitted bids, either on their own or in consortium, is as follows:-

#### *Foreign companies*

- i) Omimex Energy, USA
- ii) Bechtel Energy, USA
- iii) Narayan Consultants, Canada
- iv) Clyde Expro Plc. , U.K.
- v) Samson International, USA
- vi) Compagnie Geofinanciere, France
- vii) China Petroleum Technology Development Corporation, Peoples Republic of China.
- viii) Joshi Technologies, USA
- ix) BNG Holdings , Canada