

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) the stage at which the matter stands at present ?

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

(b) to (d). The thrust of the news item is on the award of contracts for the medium-sized fields. Government has approved the finalisation of contracts for development of Ravva, Panna, Mukta and Mid & South Tapti fields after carefully evaluating the various offers received for these fields.

Cataract

4055. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any cure for removing cataract other than surgery;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether cataract operations for old persons are seldom successful; and

(d) if so, the details of alternative treatment given in these cases ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) the cataract operations are successful in majority of the cases for all ages.

(d) Does not arise.

Drilling in Southern Region

4056. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether ONGC has drilled river basins in Southern Region in January, 1994

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the quantity of oil extracted from these basins ?

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

(b) Of the seven wells tested/under testing in KG and Cauvery basins during January, 1994, 4 wells proved to be hydrocarbon bearing and 3 proved dry. In addition, 18 wells including one development well were under drilling as on 13.1.1994.

(c) details of basin-wise crude oil production including condensate from Southern region of ONGC since inception (till March, 1994) is as follows :-

(Figs. in MMT)

<i>Basin</i>	<i>Oil Production</i>
Cauvery	1.523
KG Offshore	0.147
KG Onshore	0.109
Total	1.779