

(d) The involvement of private companies in exploration activities would lead to intensification of exploration efforts in the country with the exploration activities of the private companies supplementing those of the public sector companies, thereby adding to the hydrocarbon reserve established.

[*Translation*]

Gas Pipeline Project

*111. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
SHRI BRIJBHUSAN SHARAN
SINGH:

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

(a) the number of foreign companies which have submitted proposals for implementation of the proposed gas pipeline project for supply of natural gas from Iran to India;

(b) the total length of pipeline and the agency which will supervise the work relating to construction operation and financing;

(c) the quantity of gas to be supplied every year; and

(d) the time by which the supply is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) to (d). India and Iran are jointly working out the modalities of selecting an agency to undertake the prefeasibility study of the Iran—India natural gas pipeline. Bids for the study are yet to be invited. Details such as length of pipeline, quantity and commencement of supply will be known only after the feasibility study is completed.

[*English*]

Air Pollution in Delhi

*112. SHRI PARASRAM
BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of SURFACE
TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that air pollution by vehicles in the National Capital Region of Delhi is touching precarious levels;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to appoint an Expert Committee to suggest remedial measures; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. A survey carried out by Central Pollution Control Board has indicated that the level of Carbon Monoxide and Oxides of Nitrogen is beyond the prescribed limits in some areas of Delhi with high traffic density and at certain traffic inter-sections, during peak hour.

(b) and (c). A high powered Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Environment & Forests has been constituted to prepare a comprehensive action plan for pollution control in Delhi. The Committee is likely to submit its report by the end of August 1994.

Uniform Price for natural Gas

*113. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to enforce a uniform price for natural gas all

over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) (a) to (c). A uniform landfall price of gas has been fixed all over the country except for the North Eastern States where a concessional price has been allowed in order to encourage the utilisation of gas in the North-East.

[Translation]

Power Generation Cost

*114. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of power generation will increase as a result of recent hike in coal price;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a decision has been taken to recover this increased cost from consumers by raising the rate of electricity charges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The actual impact of the recent increase in coal prices will differ from plant to plant. It is, however, estimated that the impact of the recent price increase on the

generation of power will be approximately of the order of Paise 1.40 per kwh.

(c) and (d). Provisions exist in the tariff of most State Electricity Board and Central Generating Companies for recovery of extra expenditure by way of Fuel Price Adjustment Clause, to be collected through bills.

[English]

Indians in Rwanda and Burundi

*115. SHRI ATAL BIHARI
VAJPAYEE:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians residing in Rwanda and Burundi before ethnic violence broke out in these countries in March, 1994;

(b) the number of Indians who have migrated from these countries since then;

(c) the present number of Indians living there;

(d) the assistance rendered by the Government /Indian diplomatic missions in these countries to the Indians who have migrated and those who are still living there;

(e) whether there have been casualties among Indian families in the course of ethnic violence; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) The number of Indians residing in Rwanda and Burundi