

in the international market for the remaining period of the year 1995-96.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) Presently, there is no proposal to increase the prices.

#### **Setting up Power Plant**

824. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Cochin Refineries Limited propose to set up a power plant ; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). M/s Cochin Refineries Limited has submitted a proposal to set up a 500 MW power generation project as a Joint Venture based on the residual fuel oil available at the refinery as fuel. The proposal is under process for according 1st Stage clearance.

#### **Restructuring of ONGC Videsh**

825. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have any proposal under their active consideration for restructuring of the ONGC Videsh (OVL) ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating inter-alia the objectives to be achieved thereby;
- (c) the present status of the restructuring proposal;
- (d) whether presently apart from the Managing Director, the OVL has no full time Directors including Finance Director;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether OVL has recently approached his Ministry for approval to appoint some full time Directors ;
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the Ministry's reaction thereto; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government in recent months for acquiring equity and increasing its presence in overseas countries and the success achieved thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) and (c). Do not arise.
- (d) Yes, Sir.
- (e) Initially as the activities of the Company were at a

low key, the necessity of having full-time Directors was not felt.

- (f) Yes, Sir.

(g) On the request of OVL, the Ministry has agreed in principle for creation of two posts of whole-time Directors.

(h) OVL is currently engaged in projects in Vietnam, Tunisia, Yemen and Egypt. In Vietnam, Non- Associated Natural Gas Discovery has been made.

#### **Shortage of Coal**

826. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of shortage of coal for cement units in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) Whether the shortage of coal supply have been obstructing cement production in the country; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken to ensure adequate coal supply to the cement units according to their demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c). There has been some shortfalls in despatches of coal to cement plants during the current year. During April 95 to January 1996, Coal India Limited despatched a quantity of 67.34 lakh tonnes as compared to 70.48 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period last year. The shortfall in despatches which might have a bearing on cement production was attributable to higher priority in movement of coal by rail to power sector. The coal supplies to the cement sector were also affected by two illegal strikes instigated by extremist elements in Singareni Collieries Company Limited in the months of April 95 and October/ November, 95 and also the restricted rail movement capacity in Korba.

(d) Steps taken to ensure adequate supply of coal to cement plants include:

- (i) Close coordination with Railways for increasing supply of wagons for movement of coal to cement plants; and
- (ii) The cement units linked by rail have option to file programme for movement of coal by road in lieu of rail programmes to the extent desired by them.

#### **Oil and Gas Shortage In Power Projects**

827. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: