

Oil and Natural Gas Drilling in Bihar

889. SHRI BHOGEN DRA JHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attempts for drilling of oil and natural gas were made in Madhubani and East Champaran districts and other places of North Bihar; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). A total of six exploratory wells (Madhubani-1 in Madhubani district, Raxaul-1 in East Champaran district, Gandak-1, Ganauli-1 and Kadmaha-1 in West Champaran district, and Purnea-1 in Purnea district) were drilled in North Bihar and all these wells proved to be dry.

Second Channel in Kerala

890. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have announced opening of second channel for Trichur in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

LPG Bottling Plants in Southern States

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

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) propose to set up a number of LPG Bottling plants in Southern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating inter-alia their locations with capacity and the expenditure involved on each plant, etc.

(c) whether State Government concerned have been consulted with regard to location of plants;

(d) if so, whether they have agreed with the IOC's location or suggested some alternative Location therefor;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which the plants are likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (f). Yes, Sir. The Indian Oil

Corporation have plans to set up eight LPG bottling plants in Southern Region. The details regarding location, capacity anticipated expenditure and likely date of commissioning are as under:

Plant	Land status	Capacity (TMTPA)	Approx. Cost (Rs / Crore)	Expected date
1	2	3	4	5
Tamil Nadu				
1. Trichi	Land acquired; Construction is in Progress..	22	20	March-April, 96
2. Madras	Land aquisition is in advance stage.	66	40.77	30 Months from land take over.
3. Madurai	Land taken over in Sept., 95.	22	22	30 Months from Board approval.
4. Peruncherry	Land taken over in Feb., 96 and construction is in progress.	10	6	Feb., 1988
Andhra Pradesh				
1. Cuddapah	Land taken over in June 1994 and construction in Progress.	44	33.74	Aug., 97
2. Secunderabad	Land taken over in August, 1995	26	24	30 Months from Board approval
Kerala				
1. Quilon	Land taken over in July, 1994 and construction in progress.	22	7.32	Aug., 96
Karnataka				
1. Belgaum	Gas-in of the plant was carried out in January, 1996 and the plant is mechanically completed.			

Bottling plants are finalised by the Industry in consultation with Oil Coordination Committee for meeting the demand at given locations based on Logistics factors. Assistance of State Government is however obtained in procuring land for putting up the bottling plants.