

Mahanadi Oil Exploration Project

4314. SHRI BRAJMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of Mahanadi Oil Exploration Projects;

(b) whether the original proposal of awarding the contract on turnkey basis has been discarded by Oil India;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether the time schedule of implementation of the project has undergone changes;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the estimate of the project and how many times the estimate has been modified earlier, with details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Seven exploratory wells have been drilled so far in the Mahanadi off-shore. Seismic surveys have been carried out to the extent of 3500 line kilo meters in the on-shore area. On the basis of the interpretation of data, several locations have been identified for drilling.

(b) to (f). Presumably the reference is to the on-shore project. Originally the award of a turn-key contract was contemplated by Oil India Limited. However, due to lack of response to the tender enquiry and cost considerations it has now been decided to award a contract for drilling services only. Initially it was proposed to drill four wells in 1985-86. The revised schedule envisages commencement of drilling by June, 86. Six wells are expected to be drilled in 1986-87 and three in 1987-88.

The revised programme of nine wells is estimated to cost Rs. 9.5 crores. The estimates have had to be modified from time to time during the various stages of formulations of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Setting up of National Electricity Corporation

4315. SHRI H. M. PATEL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a National Electricity Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this Corporation propose to limit the withdrawal of power from Central generating stations;

(d) whether a number of States are opposed to the setting up of this Corporation; and

(e) if so, the names of the States and their objections ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Questions do not arise.

District Industries Centres in Gujarat

4316. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of District Industries Centres in Gujarat and their places of location;

(b) the main purpose for the establishment of these centres;

(c) the achievements made by these centres;

(d) the facilities and incentives being given for the establishment of industries; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to establish some more centres in Gujarat during 1985 and 1986 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) There are 17 District Industries Centres in Gujarat and their place of location are :
(1) Ahmedabad (which covers Gandhi