

Production of Natural Gas From Bombay High

2344. SHRI BALASAHED VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the production of natural gas from Bombay High during 1988 and 1989;

(b) whether the present rate of production is as originally estimated by Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Only Associated gas is now produced from Bombay High. Production of gas from Bombay High during 1988 and 1989 was about 8,390 million cubic metres and 9,452 million cubic metres respectively.

(b) and (c). The rate of production of associated gas in Bombay High has been higher compared to what was estimated in 1987. The higher level of production of associated gas is mainly due to an increase in the gas-oil ratio

[*Translation*]

Konark Railway Project (Bihar)

2345. PROF. YADUNATH PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Konark Railway Project in Bihar which was started ten years ago is still living incomplete;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor.

(c) the total amount earmarked for this

project and the expenditure incurred thereon so far; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) There is no approved Railway Project entitled Konark Railway Project.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Booking Office at Hazaribagh (Bihar)

2346. PROF. YADUNATH PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway reservation and booking office at Hazaribagh in Bihar has been closed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to re-open it in view of the inconvenience being faced by the passengers; and

(d) if so, when, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). A Railway out-agency managed by Bihar State Road Transport Corporation was functioning at Hazaribagh Town. Unsatisfactory working, unwillingness of the Bihar State Road Transport Corporation to continue the work and inadequate traffic led to the closure of the out-agency from 1.8.1988.

(c) and (d). Tenders were invited from the contractors in May, 1989 to re-open the out-agency but there was no response. Railway administration have decided to call for fresh tenders.