

(a) the details of the various schemes sanctioned during Eighth Plan period for exploring the possibility of oil and natural gas in the coastal area of Gujarat State; and

(b) the details of the present possibility to explore the oil and natural gas in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) In addition to the seismic surveys, ONGC propose to drill 424 exploratory wells in the State of Gujarat during the VIII Plan period.

(b) The possibility of exploring oil and natural gas in the State exists mainly within the areas of Bechraji, Khambel, Jotana, Nandasan, Langhnaj, Mansa, Limborda, Gamij, Nandej, Palej, Gandhar, Pakhajan and Nada falling in the Cambay Basin.

[*Translation*]

Supply of Gas to Gas Based Power Projects in Bihar

491. SHRI SURYA NARAIN YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar have urged the Union Government to supply gas for the gas based power projects in the State;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (b). Requests have been

received from time to time to extend the HBJ pipeline to Bihar.

(c) In view of non-availability of surplus gas it has not been possible to consider any extension of the HBJ pipeline to on any allocations in Bihar.

Oil Exploration Survey in Jabera

492. KUMARI VIMLA VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any oil exploration survey has been made at Jabera in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether drilling operation has been started at this site; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (d). On the basis of surveys, an exploratory well - Jabera-I was drilled upto a depth of 3610 m and it was abandoned, since on testing, no oil or gas in commercial quantities was obtained.

[*English*]

Exploration of Minerals in Rajasthan

493. SHRI GIRDHARILAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether assistance from any international agencies had sought for the development and exploration of minerals in Rajasthan during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?