

**Oil Reserves**

280. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recoverable reserves of India's oil wells, now under production, will last for only 26 years;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken up any projects to enhance the recoverable reserves from the fields currently under production and those under exploration;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) the present local production of oil and how it falls short of the annual demand making India a net importer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) At the present rate of depletion, the present balance recoverable oil reserves would sustain a production for about 24 years.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Apart from the exploration projects initially included in the current plan, Government have approved an Intensified Exploration programme to increase the hydrocarbon reserves in the country. The additional exploration programmes include the National Seismic grid, deep sea exploration and exploration in frontier areas.

(d) While 27.02 million tonnes of Crude Oil was produced indigenously during 1993-94, about 30.82 million tonnes was imported during the period.

**Coal Based Power Plants**

281. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any MOU has been signed in respect of private sector coal based power plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the private sector projects which have been provided coal linkage during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 (upto September, 1994)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND HOLDING ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) & (b) According to available information 36 coal/lignite based power projects have been entrusted for execution to the private promoters. Total estimated capacity of these projects is about 27,000 mega watt (MW).

(c) During the year 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 (upto September, 1994) long term coal linkage (including interim linkage) have been indicated for ten private sector utility power stations, subject to, wherever required, finalisation of commercial agreements between the coal company and the concerned power generating companies.

**Ground Water Recharge**

282. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have approved a ground water recharge scheme;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and the capital outlay involved therein;

(c) whether the experimental projects are likely to be taken up in the critical areas of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the estimated cost of recharge with injection well technique and spreading channel technique;

(f) which of these technique is being envisaged for Andhra Pradesh; and

(g) the steps proposed to be taken to harness the natural flow for useful purposes in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) & (b) Yes Sir. The Government has sanctioned a scheme for 'Studies in Recharge of Ground Water' at an estimated cost of Rs. 367 lakhs. The scheme envisages (i) exploratory studies for artificial recharge of ground water in Amravati and Jalgaon districts of Maharashtra and Gauribidanur and Mulbagal talukas of Kolar district of Karnataka, (ii) Pilot Operation Recharge Studies in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Union Territory of Chandigarh and (iii) Construction of percolation tanks and sub-surface dykes.

(c) At present there is no such proposal.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) & (f) The modalities and the cost of the ground water recharge schemes in Andhra Pradesh are to be worked out by the State Government.

(g) The Central Ground Water Board has formulated a new scheme to assist the State Governments in recharge of ground water.

**Irrigation Projects**

283. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUHARY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the disputes erupt among various Government departments while implementing irrigation projects as a result of which the irrigation projects are not implemented in time and in proper manner;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to obviate such disputes;

(c) whether the Government have issued any directions/guidelines in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF