

(HPCL) has developed plans to invest Rs. 11500 crores during the period 1997-98 to 2001-2002 on various ongoing/new projects. Out of this, a sum of Rs. 260 crores is proposed to be invested on exploration and production project and Rs. 160 crores on Power Project.

HPCL has entered into an MOU with selected financial institutions for forming a Joint Venture Co. for exploration and production of hydrocarbons. The investment in the company is expected to be about Rs. 3000 crores, to be made in a phased manner with HPCL's equity contribution of approximately Rs. 260 crores. Similarly, HPCL has a proposal to establish a 500 MW petro-fuel based Power Plant at Vishakhapatnam at an approximate cost of Rs. 1850 crores through a Joint Venture Company, in which HPCL's equity contribution would be approximately Rs. 160 crores.

The above project proposals are in the developmental stage and the dates for starting work on these projects have not been established so far.

Petroleum Products

*200. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of petroleum products being moved now in the country through pipelines;

(b) the steps taken to increase transportation of Oil through pipelines to make it cost effective;

(c) the problems being faced in this regard; and

(d) the pipeline route selected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Percentage of petroleum products being moved presently through pipelines is estimated 20.7% of total consumption of petroleum products in the country.

(b) and (c). The Government has approved formation of a holding company and subsidiary joint venture companies for expeditious implementation of new pipeline projects. Formation of the joint venture companies and financing of the same are under finalisation stage.

(d) Pipeline projects under implementation are :

- (1) Mumbai-Manmad
- (2) Visakh-Rajamundri-Vijayawada

Proposed pipeline network is :

1. Koyali-Ratlam
2. Cochin-Coimbatore-Trichy
3. Mangalore-Bangalore

4. Loni-Sholapur-Hazarwadi
5. Kanpur-Lucknow
6. Bina-Jhansi-Kanpur
7. Jalandhar-Pathankot-Udhampur
8. Delhi-Ghaziabad-Roorkee
9. Vasco-Lunda-Belgaum-Miraj
10. Ratlam-Kota

Development of Cryogenic Engine by ISRO

1716. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHRY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of funds sanctioned for the development of cryogenic engine by ISRO; and

(b) the total amount already spent on the development of the engine by ISRO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The total amount sanctioned for the development of cryogenic engine by ISRO is Rs. 352.19 crores, as indicated below :

(i) Pre-project funding under Geosynchronous Satellites Launch Vehicle (GSLV) Project	Rs. 16.30 crores
(ii) Cryogenic Upper Stage Project (CUSP)	Rs. 335.89 crores
Total	Rs. 352.19 crores

(b) The total amount already spent on the development of the engine by ISRO is Rs. 136.44 crores.

Cancellation of valid Licences of Deep Sea Fishing

1717. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Law Ministry has recommended cancellation of valid licences of deep sea fishing to the foreign companies;

(b) whether this will send wrong signals to foreign investors;

(c) if so, the arguments put forward by the Law Ministry; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (d). Government had constituted a Review

Committee on Deep Sea Fishing Policy. The Committee inter-alia recommended that all permits issued for fishing by Joint Venture/Charter/Lease/Test Fishing should immediately be cancelled subject to legal processes as may be required. In respect of this recommendation, it has been decided that action to cancel such permits/permissions has to be taken in consultation with the Ministry of Law in individual cases, on violation of MZI Act, 1981, Rules framed thereunder and/or terms and conditions of such letters of permits/permissions.

[Translation]

Litigation in Service Matters

1718. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce the number of litigation in service matters;

(b) whether the Central Administrative Tribunal takes much time to dispose of the cases due to postponement of the cases, again and again and by taking long period;

(c) if so, the steps taken to dispose of these cases immediately and to ensure that decision is taken within six months on any matter;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Members of the Administrative Services Tribunals retire in a very short period and thereby making it difficult to two Members Bench;

(e) whether the Government propose to appoint the Legal Experts and Judges from the Judiciary Service; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) All the Ministries/ Departments of the Governments of India have been advised to strictly adhere to and properly implement the prescribed policies, rules, orders etc. so that the litigation is reduced to a minimum. Instructions have also been issued to them to review their staff grievance redressal machinery, identify the grievance prone areas with a view to remedying for defects, simplify the rules and procedures and take steps for fixing time-norms for disposal of all staff matters.

(b) to (d). No comparative study has been undertaken to compare the time taken in disposal of cases by other courts vis-a-vis Central Administrative Tribunal. Adjournments are granted by the Tribunal in their judicial capacity. Government has issued

instructions to all Ministries/Departments to properly and effectively defend their cases in the Tribunal. Efforts are also made to fill up the vacancies at the levels of Vice-Chairman and Member in the Tribunal as expeditiously as possible in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985.

(e) and (f). A Court in the Tribunal consists of one Member from the judicial stream and the other from the administrative stream. Serving/retired High Court Judges and Judicial Officers are already being appointed against the posts of Vice-Chairman and Judicial Members in the Tribunal.

[English]

Exploration of Gas in Southern Assam

1719. SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that oil exploration in Southern Assam is slow as out of total 10 wells only two are operational; and

(b) the steps taken to explore more oil there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) and (b). The Southern Assam constitutes the South of Dhansiri Valley and Cachar area. Presently 5 seismic crews and 4 drilling rigs are deployed by ONGC to carry out exploration activities in Southern Assam.

Recently Government of India has also awarded three blocks in Southern Assam for exploration to private/multinational companies.

Illegal Structures

1720. SHRI I.L.D. SWAMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 4398 dated September 4, 1996 regarding illegal structures and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the cases in which stay orders were granted by the Delhi High Court as reported by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Council are given in the attached Statement.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (b) above.