

(a) whether a large quantity of crude oil deposits have been found recently in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the exploration work has been carried out; and

(d) the quantity of oil expected from this annually?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) to (d). Substantial reserves of oil have been established by ONGC and OIL in Assam. Recent discoveries include those at Kathaloni, Hatiali and Cachar. Further exploration is continuing.

New discoveries are required to be delineated before estimates of production can be made.

Limestone Deposits

4688. SHRI LAETA UMBREY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are large deposits of lime stone in Arunachal Pradesh and the North Eastern States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV) (a) and (b). The recoverable reserves of limestone in Arunachal Pradesh and North Eastern States have been estimated as follows:

	<i>State</i>		<i>Recoverable reserves (in thousand tonnes)</i>
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	108,529
2.	Assam	—	731,792
3.	Manipur	—	6,657
4.	Meghalaya	—	4,268,196
5.	Mizoram	—	Nil
6.	Nagaland	—	308,348
7.	Tripura	—	80

Quota of LPG Connections

4689. SHRI NANI BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to fix a

quota of LPG connections per month on the recommendations of senior LPG Manager and Chief Area Managers in the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?