

(a) whether Government propose to undertake exploration operations for locating reserves of oil and natural gas; and

(b) if so, outlines of the plan and the expenditure proposed to be incurred by Government on this programme during the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b). The approved outlay for the Seventh Plan for ONGC is Rs. 8752.67 crores and for OIL Rs. 950 crores. The details of exploration programme are being worked out.

[English]

**Delivery of Gas Cylinders to Consumers
within Time Schedule by Gas
Agencies**

344. SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have given directions to the gas agencies for the delivery of cylinders within specified days;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the agencies are complying with these directions; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof and corrective action taken/proposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (d). LPG distributors are under instructions from the oil companies to supply refills within 48 hours of a customers request. While this normally does happen, there are times when delays occur in some areas owing to problems in respect of bottling, industrial relations, transportation etc. The oil companies endeavour to solve these problems as speedily as possible in order to restore normalcy of supplies.

**STD Facilities at new places during
the Seventh Five Year Plan period**

346. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to provide STD facilities at new places during the Seventh Five year Plan;

(b) the details of the provision made in the plan in this regard; and

(c) the places likely to be provided with STD facility in 1985-86?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The district headquarters not yet provided with STD and the telephone exchanges with capacity of more than 1000 lines as on 1-4-84 have been proposed to be provided with STD facilities during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(c) (i) The following places have already been provided with STD facility during 1985-86 so far.

1. Amrali
2. Dhubri
3. Dibrugarh
4. Gulbarga
5. Kothamangalam
6. Kurnool
7. Karur
8. Muvathupuzha
9. Morvi
10. Perambavur

(ii) The following additional places are likely to be provided with STD facilities during remaining part of 1985-86.

1. Arkonam
2. Bhilai
3. Changanacherry
4. Chandrapur
5. Daltonganj
6. Gandhidham
7. Gaya
8. Hospat

9. Hazaribagh
10. Jowai
11. Kothagudem
12. Kangayam
13. Kumbakonam
14. Lingampalli
15. Mahabalipuram
16. Pathankot
17. Rameswaram
18. Ratnagiri
19. Tanuku
20. Thiruvannamalai

**Proposal to help LPG Cylinder
Manufacturing Units**

347. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :
SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA
RAO :

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

(a) whether most of the nearly 66 LPG cylinder manufacturing units in the country are in dumps and many of the LPG units are languishing with little possibility of diversification and are facing a bleak future;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to help this industry by purchasing the LPG cylinders from the Indian manufacturing units so as to save them; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Since the installed capacity for cylinder manufacturing in the country is in excess of the requirements of the Oil Industry, the manufacturing units are not able to utilise their full capacity. The cylinder manufacturers have been apprised of the situation and some of them are already taking steps to diversify their items of production.

(b) and (c). Orders have been placed by the oil industry on indigenous manufacturers

in respect of the cylinders required in 1985-86.

**Oil Struck in New Bombay High
Offshore Structure**

348. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :

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

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in "The Times of India" of 14 September, 1985 regarding oil struck in the well drilled on the new Bombay High offshore structure in the Arabian Sea;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantity of oil that is likely to be got from this well; and

(d) the time by which it will start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A well drilled on D-18 structure in the Arabian Sea 170 Km. West of Bombay produced oil and gas. The well was spudded on 14th May, 1985 and drilled to a depth of 4106 metres by 16-8-1986.

It produced 3398 barrels of oil and 20082 cubic metres of gas per day during testing. Based on the result from this well and the data already available, it is proposed to delineate the find further.

[Translation]

**Closure of Public Sector Industries
Running in Loss**

349. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to close down the public sector industries running in loss; and

(b) if so, the names of such industries and the extent of loss being suffered by each of them ?