

(b) whether oil and LPG will be produced at such an economic cost that it would almost meet the domestic demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) ONGC and OIL propose to drill about 2200 wells during the Seventh Five Year Plan in the following areas/basins :

Gujarat

Kutch and Saurashtra

Assam

Arunachal Pradesh

Nagaland

Tripura

Krishna-Godavari

Cauvery

Bengal

Orissa

Rajasthan

Himalayan foothills and Ganga Valley

Gondwana

Vindhyan

Deccan Syncline

Bombay Offshore

Kutch Offshore

Kerala-Konkan

Andaman and North East Coast

The Seventh Plan outlay approved for the ONGC and OIL is Rs. 9702 crores.

(b) It is expected that oil and gas will be produced economically. Since exploration of oil is highly probabilistic in nature, it is not possible to indicate with certitude whether self-sufficiency would be achieved.

[English]

Gas Exploration in H.P. and J and K

1332. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Jwalamukhi in Himachal Pradesh and Saruinsar in Jammu and Kashmir have been identified as suitable for gas exploration;

(b) if so, whether drilling operations have already started there; and

(c) if so, the results achieved thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b). ONGC has drilled 4 wells in Jwalamukhi and one in Surinar. Some more locations have been identified for drilling in these areas.

(c) No commercial discovery of hydrocarbons has been made so far.

Customer Services Centres in Telephone Department

1333. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of customer services centres working in the Telephone Department;

(b) whether these are effectively functioning to help people; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to improve the working of these centres ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The number of customer services centres working in the country is 223.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (b) above. However, constant watch is being kept on the working of these centres.