

Oil exploration in Tamil Nadu

2040. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU :

DR. V. RAJESHWARAN :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the details of oil exploration being done at present in Tamil Nadu and the expected yield therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : ONGC have deployed four departmental and two contract parties for conducting seismic surveys in Tamil Nadu. Four rigs have also been deployed for exploratory drilling. Exploration for hydrocarbons being probabilistic in nature, it would not be possible to indicate in advance the result of these efforts.

Takeover of a unit Ashok Paper Mills by Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited

2041. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited proposes to takeover a unit of the Ashok Paper Mills in Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the terms and conditions settled in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Consultations with Government of Assam on the terms and conditions of association of Hindustan Paper Corporation with the management of Ashok Paper Mills are taking place. No final view has yet emerged.

12-Point action plan for efficiency in engineering Industry

2042. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Confederation of Engineering Industry has submitted a 12-point Action Plan to the Government for achieving greater efficiency in the Indian engineering industry;

(b) if so, details of the 12-point Action Plan; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The action plan submitted by the Confederation includes suggestions on lifting of controls on growth, raising of exemption limits for the purpose of industrial licensing, extension of the scope of minimum economic scales of operation to cover more industries, relaxations from the provisions of MRTP Act and Companies Act etc. The policy of the Government has been directed towards liberalisation of the Industrial Policy within the overall framework of the Industrial Policy Resolution, 1959. In pursuance of the policy, Government have taken a number of steps towards liberalisation of industrial licensing policy and procedure. This is a continuous exercise and suggestions made by the industry are also taken into account before arriving at decisions in this regard.

Production of energy from waste

2043. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total estimated quantity of waste produced annually in India from