Out of 32 wells drilled in offshore, oil/gas has been discovered in the following wells :---

Oil/Gas
Oil and Gas
-do-
-do-
-do-
-do-
Gas
Gas

(b) to (d) 1.5 lac cubic meters of gas is available during the extended production testing period of Narsapur and Razole, wells. Apart from this, more gas estimated at 1 MMCMD is expected to be available with a notice period of three years. Proposals for utilising this gas for power, fertilizers and other industries, are under consideration.

Telephone Connections given during 1986

140. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-TIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of telephone connections given during the year 1986; and

(b) the percentage of telephones given in the rural and city areas during that period, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The total number of net telephone connections provided during the period from 1.4.86 to 31.1.87 are 1,83,047.

(b) The percentage of telephone connections provided in the rural areas and urban areas are around 15% and 85% respectively. Strike by Workers of Public Sector Undertakings

141. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK : SHRI B. B. RAMAIAH : SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : SHRI SUBASH YADAY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the workers of public sector undertakings went on a one-day nation-wide strike on 21st January 1987;

(b) if so, the overall effect of the strike on production and other loss;

(c) what were their demands; and

(d) the Union Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTER-PRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): (a) Some workers went on strike on 21st January, 1987.

(b) The overall effect of the strike on production and other loss cannot be assessed.

(c) The list of their demands is given in the statement below.

(d) The apprehensions of the workers are unfounded and the demands lack substance.

Statement

List of demands—in answer to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 141— Part (c)

1. For a halt to the Policy of privatisation of the Public Sector.

- monopolies into the sphere of activities of the public sector.
- 3. For stopping of import of technology and goods detrimental to the indigenous development.
- 4. Against introduction of modernisation, computerisation etc. without prior approval of the trade unions;
- 5. No fanning out or off loading of jobs of regular worker to private contractors.
- 6. Equal remuneration for equal work for all jobs done by the public sector.
- 7. Immediate commencement of wage negotiations in public sector wherever they are due in terms of previous agreements.
- 8. No linking of wages with productivity.
- 9 Enhancement of the rate of DA to ensure full neutralisation in rise in the cost of living at all levels.
- No curtailment of T. U. and democratic rights through amendments to standing orders and legislative ban on activities. Abrogation of Article 31t (2) of the Indian Constitution.
- 11. No closures, lay-offs. retrenchment of workers and denotification of public sector enterprises.
- 12. For inclusion of Right to Work as Fundamental Right in the Constitution, pending which payment of unemployment allowance.
- 13. End of BPE's arbitrary intervention and bureaucratisation of Public Enterprises.
- 14. Enforcement of genuine workers participation in management.

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Meeting of State Power Ministers in New Delhi

142. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting of the State Power Ministers were held in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed therein and conclusions arrived at;

(c) whether a package of measures was announced by the Union Government for tackling the problems of State Electricity Boards; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) (a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): The agenda items of the Conference included a review of the power programme (.986- [°]), rationalisation of power tariffs, conservation of energy, and reduction in transmission & distribution losses. The main conclusions arrived at the Conference related 10- measures to improve power generation and plant laod factor of thermal stations by expenditious implementation of the renovation and modernisation programme, reduction in transmission & distribution losses by adoption of technical as well as administrative measures, single-window clearance for expediting the techno-economic approval of power projects, timely supply of equipments to power projects, improvement in the quality and quantity of coal supplied to thermal stations, and measures to strengthen the State Electricity Boards.