

Some of the reasons for increase in the prices of edible oils are shortfall in the production of oilseeds and the impact of lean period.

(c) To Check the rising trend in the prices of edible oils in the open market, the allocation of imported edible oils under Public Distribution System is being made at the increased level. Recently allocation of imported oils to vanaspati industry has also been increased.

[*Translation*]

Oil Fields in the Country

177. SHRI MADAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that new oil deposits in various parts of the country have been found recently;

(b) if so, the names of these places;

(c) whether Government are going to make arrangements for exploration of these oil fields in the near future; and

(d) if so, by when and at which places ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since April 1986, Oil has been discovered in the following prospects :

Onshore

Kaikahur	}	Andhra Pradesh
Namti		Assam
Shalmari		

Offshore

CD	}	West Coast
CA		
B—42		
K—7A		
B—131		

(c) and (d) The commercial exploitation of these discoveries will depend upon further delineation drilling.

Enquiry into Flaring up of Gas and underground Gurgling Sound at Bokta Village of Gorakhpur

178. SHRI MADAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received reports of flaring up of gas and underground gurgling sound at Bokta village in Gorakhpur District (Uttar Pradesh);

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any effective steps so far to hold an enquiry in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; if not, whether Government propose to take any steps in the near future in this connection; and

(d) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) ONGC had conducted investigations of the reported gas show at Bokta village. The gas coming out of the well was collected and analysed at the KDM Institute of Petroleum Exploration. On geochemical analysis, the gas samples were found to be of biogenic nature (marsh gas).

Self Employment Scheme

179. SHRI MADAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the work relating to self employment scheme being run by Government is progressing at a

snail's pace;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any concrete steps to ensure that it gains momentum;

(c) the number of persons who submitted applications under this scheme in different districts of U.P. during the last one year and the number of persons out of them given loans; and

(d) The number of applicants who have neither been given loans nor has any action been taken on their applications ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir. During the years 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 achievements were 97%, 91% and 88% respectively.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) District-wise information is not maintained centrally. However, during the year 1985-86 against a target of 31,300 for the State, 97,706 applications were received by DICs in U. P. The banks sanctioned loans to 26,264 beneficiaries.

(d) Such information is not maintained by the Central Government.

[English]

Modernisation of cement and building Material Industry

180. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK :

DR. G.S. RAJHANS :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have recently emphasized the need to modernise the cement and building material industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines issued by Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to render any help to the industry for the modernisation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Government have been impressing upon the cement industry from time to time the need to take effective steps to modernise the old cement factories and also to take necessary steps for installation of energy conservation devices and pollution control equipments. A World Bank loan of \$ 200 million has also been arranged during 1986 for conversion of seven cement units from wet to dry process and for sub-sector level training/technical assistance, etc. for the cement industry.

(c) and (d) The following decisions have been taken to help the cement industry in undertaking their modernisation programmes :-

(i) Old cement plants which have been declared sick are charged less levy obligation compared to other units with a view to enable them to invest the extra realisation for modernisation purposes;

(ii) Factories which install new dry process kilns by scrapping the existing old wet process kilns or convert the existing old wet process kilns into dry process kilns such that the additional capacity installed is equal to or in excess of the capacity of the old kiln(s) will be treated as new units for purposes of fixing levy quota.

Import of Crude Petroleum

181. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated quantity of crude petroleum and petroleum products to be imported during 1986-87;