

3. Buniyar, District Baramulla

Jammu & Kashmir

4. Addanki Branch, District Prekasam

Andhra Pradesh

[English]

**Development of Agro-based Industries
in West Bengal**

2053. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great potential for the development of agro-based industries in the Sunderbans and other areas in West Bengal ; and

(b) if so, what assistance Government propose to render to the State for the development of these and other small scale industries to provide employment in the rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Government has provided a number of fiscal and financial incentives for the promotion of agro-based and small scale industries. Both the investment subsidy and income tax incentives are made available for the location of industrial units in backward areas. Special tax concessions are also given for production in the small scale sector. Many items that can be efficiently produced in the small scale sector are also reserved for that sector. The financial institutions are also providing concessional assistance for industrial undertakings located in backward and rural areas of the country. In addition specific concessions have also been provided in the tax structure for the promotion of agro-based industries. Under the Khadi & Village Industries Programme, financial and other promotional assistance are given for rural industrialisation.

Drilling in West Bengal

2054. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the progress made so far in the drilling for oil in the Canning area of West Bengal and other off-shore areas in that State where oil exploration and drilling operations had been undertaken ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : ONGC have so far drilled three wells in the Canning areas in West Bengal. A fourth well at Raghunath is under drilling. One well SME-1 has been completed by ONGC in the central part of Bay of Bengal. A second well SMM-1 is under drilling.

There has been so far no commercial discovery of hydrocarbons in any of the above wells.

**Translation of Report into Video Film
by Coal India Ltd.**

2055. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coal India Ltd. (CIL) translated their Report studded with graphs, charts and tables into a video film ;

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred thereon ;

(c) the reasons for adopting such a novel way to highlight its activities ; and

(d) to what use it was put and the ultimate outcome of this venture ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) Video film have been produced on the activities of Coal India Limited in the past. Coal India Ltd. now have a proposal to make a video film