

to the State of Rajasthan. Out of this amount also they can spend some money to provide drinking water. So far, Rs.150 crore is available with the State of Rajasthan and in addition we have released Rs.80 crore.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Bisalpur scheme of my Constituency has been submitted to the Central Government. There are 100 such villages in my area where fluoride is present in water. People become hunch-backed by consuming that water. The above scheme is lying pending with the Central Ministry since long. No action is being taken on that. Will the hon. Minister please state about the present status of the above scheme.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot enter into a debate here.

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : On the requests made by the State Government, we are releasing the money. The State Government is the monitoring agency. The Chief Engineers and all other employees are under the control of the State Government. So, for its proper implementation they should go to the State Government and if there is anything which the Centre can do, they should ask us. We are releasing the money in time. Since the State of Rajasthan is facing a crisis, we have even released the second instalment in advance.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, the question relates to providing safe and potable water. There are various schemes with the Central Government with regard to this. If there is excess of fluoride or excess of other poisonous or disease causing substances in the water, there is a separate scheme which looks into it and the question relates to that.

MR. SPEAKER : The point is, the Member have agreed that money is available. Though you have provided the money, the work is not being done properly. Your stand is, it is a State subject and, therefore, the State Government should look into it. I agree with you. But the question is, if the responsibility of the Central Government is only to release money and nothing more, then what for this Department is required. The Planning Commission can give the money directly.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please, I am trying to help you.

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Members are aware that in the Chief Minister's Conference of 4th July, all the Chief Ministers requested the Centre to release the money directly to the States and said that they would monitor everything. They have asked us to release the money and they would do the monitoring as they have all the machinery with them. This was the demand of the Chief Ministers of different States...(Interruptions) The United front

Government gives respect to all the States. Whatever money the Centre is releasing, they should spend it properly.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has shifted the responsibility on the States, but the question relates to him and his Ministry. The State Government has since forwarded its scheme, but what the Ministry is doing on that.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Rawat ji, I have given you sufficient time. Do not disturb like this.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, reply to my question has not come.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : PAC is seized of this problem. So, the matter may be referred to PAC.

### Oil Reserves

\*183. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH  
GAEKWAD :

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the present estimated quantity of oil reserves available in the country;

(b) whether any fresh survey or study has been made in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken to explore and exploit these oil reserves; and

(e) the places where oil exploration projects have been executed during the last three years and the present status of each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):  
(a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT

(a) The estimated recoverable reserves of oil and condensate as on 31.3.96 are 745.65 MMT.

(b) and (c). Estimation of oil reserves are carried out on a yearly basis.

(d) The steps taken to explore and exploit oil reserves are -

(i) Intensive exploration in known oil/gas producing areas.

- (ii) Extensive and intensive exploration including deep water exploration and exploration in frontier areas.
- (iii) 3D seismic survey for better understanding of the oil fields.
- (iv) Developing the necessary infrastructure to facilitate optimum exploitation of reserves.
- (v) Judicious reservoir management.
- (vi) Adoption of specialised technologies such as ERD, horizontal and drain hole drilling.
- (vii) Implementation of new schemes of oil/gas development.
- (viii) Encouraging the participation of private/joint venture in the oil exploration and development.
- (ix) Hiring of services of international experts wherever considered necessary.

(e) During the last three years, ONGC and OIL, the two national oil companies have carried out exploration work in the onland and/or offshore part of the basins of Cambay, Kutch-Saurashtra, Kerala-Konkan, Krishna-Godavari, Cauvery, Upper Assam, Assam-Arakan Fold Belt (Tripura, Cachar, Nagahills), Ganga Valley (Bihar and western U.P.), Bengal, Rajasthan and in the State of Madhya Pradesh. These efforts have resulted in oil and gas discoveries at 37 places. The Status in terms of exploratory work carried out during the last three years by ONGC and OIL is given in the *Annexure*.

#### ANNEXURE

*Status of Exploratory Work Carried out by ONGC and Oil India Limited during the last Three Years.*

	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
<b>Seismic Survey</b>			
2D Seismic Survey (Onshore) (Inequivalent of SLK)	36917.20	37105.4	37244.2
2D Seismic Survey (Offshore) (LK)	25028	17152	19007
3D Seismic Survey (Onshore) (SSK/Sq. Kms.)	1119.7	1153.21	1106.91
3D Seismic Survey (Offshore) (LK/Sq. Kms.)	7482	22902	14725
<b>Exploratory Drilling</b>			
(000 MTS.)			
Onshore	373.856	427.548	428.868
Offshore	432.03	516.86	48.842

SHRI SATYAJIT SINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD : In part (e) of the reply, it has been stated that during the last three years ONGC and Oil India Limited has carried out exploration work in the Kutch-Saurashtra basin and other regions. I would like to know whether any contract

was awarded to ESSAR Company for Mahanadi-Saurashtra area which has resulted in a loss of Rs.70 crore to the company; if so, why was this contract fashioned in such a manner and what measures does the Government propose to take to check recurrence of such losses.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, the Kutch-Saurashtra basin has been explored over the last three years. As a result of the exploration work done by the ONGC and Oil India in the last three years in various parts of the country oil and gas has been discovered and at 37 places in and various sources of offshore onshore basins of the Krishna, Godavari, the Cauvery, Bombay, Cambay, Assam... (Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not an answer to my question.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : If you want a general reply, the results are awaited as far as the Kutch-Saurashtra basin is concerned.

SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not satisfied with the answer. It has been observed that under the pretext of bringing in better and modern methods of exploration of oil fields, contracts are awarded to private companies, it is just the modern technology for which they are doing so because the areas are identified by the Ministry of petroleum. It is the private sector that has identified the multinationals. The multinationals just get the modern infrastructure. When the oil fields are identified, when the areas are designated, when the private participation is also identified, what they just want is just the modern infrastructure for exploring these areas. In this, why are the Government's own babies like ONGC, IOC, BPCL not awarded this contract of private participation?

My question was, "Has any loss been initiated by private participation by Essar, if so, why was this contract fashioned in such a manner; and what are the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such losses?"

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the data is being processed. As soon as the processed data is available to us, we will be in a position to reply to this.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Sir, for a long time exploration work in the river basin of Mahanadi near Paradip has been going on but there has been no progress and production is yet to start. Besides the river basin of Mahanadi there are other places where oil reserves are available. I would like to know from the Government whether they have decided to conduct similar surveys in other parts of Orissa, if so, what are the steps taken by the Government so far in this regard?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can only speak on the basis of the data available. We are examining data. There is involvement of risk capital and because of that we will go step by step only. The Government is taking into consideration all the data

that is available. Only after completion of collection of the data, will we process it and then we will taken final decision.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the reply of the hon. Minister, I do not find any information regarding the State of Tamil Nadu. May I request the hon. Minister whether any oil exploration work has been carried out in Tamil Nadu in the recent years, and if so, what are the details?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, as far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, we have drilled 240 exploratory wells. Thirty-one development wells have been drilled. Out of that, oil wells are 62 and gas wells are 23. The cumulative production as on 1st April, 1996 is 2.38 MMT of oil and 426.99 MMSCM of gas.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this question was asked for two or three times in the Tenth Lok Sabha and during the last session. As has been said by my hon. friend Shri Gaekwad, South Gujarat, North Gujarat and Sourashtra have been identified as oil reserves. Private as well government agencies were engaged for the exploration of these deposits, negotiations were held for twice or thrice for this purpose. I have been hearing this reply repeatedly that negotiations are being held. Through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the present position of exploration of oil from the oil reserves of Gujarat and tender called for the same. I would also like to know the time by which oil will be extracted from those reserves. This is my specific question.

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : The exploration activities involve a high risk factor. After processing step by step all data...(Interruptions) My dear friend, it involves a lot of risk factors...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Reply to my question has not come...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No use.

[English]

SHRI B.K. GADHVI : I have to inform the House and the Government of a serious development with Shir Creek. The Shir Creek, near the Kutch is in Indian territory and potentially, very rich for oil and gas explorations. Recently, Pakistan has issued a notification claiming that it belongs to theirs and therefore they are embarking on a design which they did in 1965 over Chadbet, where the international dispute was there. Is the Government aware that Pakistan had issued a notification claiming this Shir Creek to be their territory, which is potentially very rich for oil exploration? Has the Government taken any step

to countermand the Pakistan designs to forestall these diabolical manoeuvres? This is reported in the Gujarat ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the question.

[English]

SHRI B.K. GADHVI : My submission is about two things. One is about the oil exploration, which is his subject and the other one is about the national interest, which is adversely claimed by Pakistan as the Indian territory. On this ground, what is the approach of the Government? Is the Government aware of this fact or not?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : The Director General of Hydrocarbons has recently carried out an aeromagnetic survey in Rann-of-Kutch. After the results of the survey are examined, the potential of the area will be known. Then, we would be able to answer...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Please allow me. The hon. Speaker has allowed me to speak.

The hon. Minister in a Statement has given a list of places where on-land and off-shore explorations are being carried out by the ONGC and the IOL in the last three years. Among those places, there is a mention of Bengal, I believe, it is West Bengal, may I know whether it is a fact that despite oil being found in two wells, Bodra and Itchapur, the ONGC is withdrawing its further action's in West Bengal and has not taken seismic survey which was recommended by many experts?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : As far as West Bengal is concerned, we have made on-land surveys. We have made geological survey of 8806 sq. km. out of which we have made seismic survey, 2D seismic survey of about 8410 GLK (singlefold) ground and 6033 ground line km 6/12 fold and 18,586 standard line km. seismic survey.

As far as contractual survey is concerned we have already surveyed 4758 kilometres of ground-line KPL and 77 ILK link. Regarding 3-D survey, we have already conducted a survey for 185 SSK. Through contract, we have already conducted a survey for 67 square kilometres. In the on-land survey the number of structures hydrocarbon bearing were nil. About offshore, I would like to say that we have already drilled 36 wells. In the last forty years, we have conducted many drillings and surveys and drilling of wells at a cost of more than Rs 600 crore in West Bengal alone...(Interruptions) Actually, there is no commercial hydrocarbon available.

### Clearance to Power Projects

\*184. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals from the Government