

the answer, he has mentioned that the proposal is under process for approval of investment.

What about acquisition of land? What is the amount of investment? From where would the Government get this amount? Will it be obtained from foreign companies or from within the country?

You have mentioned about the present condition of this project. I would like to have an answer to these questions.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : It is pertaining to the Western India Refinery Project. It is a joint venture between Oman and HPC. In the beginning itself, I have told the hon. Members that during my visit to Mumbai, I personally contacted, most probably, the Industry Secretary and other Government officials. I requested them to speed up the process of land acquisition. The land acquisition is half-way through only. The Government is very much interested to put up industry in Maharashtra.

As far as the capacity is concerned, it will be six million tonnes and the cost will be around Rs. 5,100 crore.

The stage-II clearance has been obtained. The Government has got more details from the partner in the joint venture about the financial aspect.

[Transition]

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you very much. There is one Barauni refinery in Bihar. Indian Oil Board has sent an expansion programme for Barauni oil refinery from 3.2 million to 6 million to the Government and which is lying with the Government since February 1996. Infrastructure is available there and there is no problem of land acquisition and quarters and other sources are also available there. I would like to know the time by which Government proposed to clear expansion proposal of Barauni oil refinery.

MR. SPEAKER : Very good.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : We are very much interested in the Barauni Refinery. We will expand it. The question is out of context.

[Translation]

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Sir, it is not out of context. It is related...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

The Government of India is going to install refineries in several States. There is a refinery in the State of Bihar. The only question involved is about expansion. This is not out of context. The Government should reply to it.

The Minister concerned should give us the information. If he is not in a position to reply to my supplementary, it is another point.

MR. SPEAKER : Is there any **new** proposal for Bihar?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Regarding non-availability of crude oil, the expansion is pending. As and when we put up the pipeline project there, it will come up.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Sir, I personally met the Minister in his Office and gave him a letter requesting him about this project. But the project is still pending.

MR. SPEAKER : You better meet him once again.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Thank you Sir.

SHRI KASHI RAM RANA : Sir, in regard to the proposal of M/s. Oman Oil India Company and M/s. IPCL, the hon. Minister in his reply has said that the proposal is under process for investment approval.

Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to when this project would be sanctioned and commenced. Our earlier Prime Ministers, the late Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao had promised to provide sufficient gas for power generation from the Tapti High Drill. Then the Government of India had also promised to supply gas from the Oman gas pipeline. The State of Gujarat is now facing an acute power shortage due to non-allotment of gas for power generation. So, I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to when this project would be completed and sanctioned and how much amount would be required for this project.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, M/s. Oman Oil India Company is a joint venture with M/s. Bharat Petroleum is going to set up a refinery in Central India. As far as the concern of the hon. Member about setting up of refinery in Western India is concerned, I would like to say that M/s. Oman India Oil Company along with M/s. Indian Petrochemicals would have to set up a refinery in Western India. M/s. Oman India Oil Company has already invested, as participatory investment, 26 per cent, out of the total of Rs. 35 crore for the refinery in Madhya Pradesh, that is, in Central India.

We have requested the concerned PSU to go into the details of the financial capabilities of M/s. Oman India Oil company for setting up of the Western India refinery. However, the Government is very much interested to put up the refinery in Western India...*(Interruptions)*

Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme

*284. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received the final project Reports regarding Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP) from the State Governments; and

(b) if so, the details of the Project Report State-wise and Uttar Pradesh in particular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR U VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b). There is no provision for submission of Project Reports by the State Governments to the Central Government under the Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme. State Governments prepare town project reports at their own level keeping in view local felt needs within the overall guidelines of the Programme.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today is Prime Minister's day and in the morning he was present here. I would like to know whether he has gone with your permission because at present he is not here.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Yes. The Prime Minister has an appointment with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : I am satisfied, Sir, Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme of Prime Minister was started in 1995. Its main purpose was, how to implement this programme in town having population of 50 thousand to one lakh as there are 345 such town in the countries. The Central Government had planned to provide Rs. 800/- crores in 5 years and Rs. 715 crores was to be provided by the State Government and 6375/- crores rupees was to be given by banks bulks. The purpose of this scheme was that poverty of 50 lakh people could be removed. It was also assured that by giving some relaxation in the population this scheme should also be extended for H.P., Sikkim, North Eastern States and J & K. I would like to ask hon. Minister directly whether Government have given relaxation in respect of population and if so, how far they have been successful in Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, North Eastern States and Jammu & Kashmir.

[English]

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : As far as PMIUPEP is concerned it has been applied to an urban agglomeration having a population between 50,000 to one lakh. In certain States there are as many as 345 urban agglomerations. In certain States, without confining to the urban agglomeration, exemptions are given in the towns also. These exemptions that are given are in the hilly and backward States. It has been said, keeping in view the peculiar problems of backward and hilly States, it has been decided to extend the programme to district towns in North-Eastern States, Sikkim, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Garhwal and Kumaon range. These are the exemptions that are given in urban agglomerations.

The hon. Member has asked as to whether it is possible for the States to contribute Rs. 700 crore in addition to Rs. 800 crore that is being provided by the Union Government - also five per cent of the amount is to be contributed by the beneficiary. I would like to say that this is a programme which has been launched for a specific group of people, that is the group of people having education background up to the 9th class. Unlike other programmes that are already in operation, like NRY, IDSMT, etc., this is a programme which has been aimed at a particular target group. There is a certain amount of success in some States. The States are preparing their project reports and they are being implemented accordingly. This is a programme which has been launched just one year ago.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am unable to understand whether the hon. Minister has been able to grasp my question or not because the reply which he has given does not pertain to my question. He has replied that States were to prepare their project reports. My question was as to how many States have prepared their project reports?

During 1995-96 Rs. 15.85 crores were released to Uttar Pradesh under the scheme. I would also like to know the share of Central Government and Uttar Pradesh Government in this amount and in how many cities in Uttar Pradesh, this scheme has been implemented and the number of people benefited.

[English]

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : Though there is no need to submit these Project Reports to the Central Government, I have got the particulars of the Project Reports that have been prepared by different States. The information is that in Bihar out of 28 urban agglomerations, 24 Project Reports have been prepared. Similarly, in Haryana, out of nine, eight Project Reports have been prepared. In Kerala nine out of nine Project Reports have been prepared. In Madhya Pradesh out of 29, 22 Project Reports have been prepared. In Maharashtra 28 out of 28 and in Mizoram two out of two Project Reports have been prepared. In Rajasthan 20 out of 20 and in Tamil Nadu 41 out of 41 Project Reports have been prepared. In Himachal Pradesh 46 out of 53 and in West Bengal 11 out of 18 Project Reports have been prepared. This is the information that we have received from different States. In other States though Project Reports have been prepared at their level, the information has not reached the Union Government.

Regarding the second part of the question, as far as Uttar Pradesh is concerned, Rs. 15.84 crore have been earmarked and the State's share has been given to the extent of Rs. 14.87 crore. As far as the total number of people benefited out of this programme is concerned, the information is still awaited from the State.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : I seek your protection. Sir, I only asked the number of towns in Uttar Pradesh in which the scheme is launched.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister has already replied that it is 46 out of 53 proposals. Mr. Minister, you can kindly give him the locations of these places.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : I have got the list and I will give it to the hon. Member, Sir.

SHRI K.S. RAYADU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, the eligibility conditions to avail of benefits under the PMIUEP, the unit cost that has been provided, the subsidy and the conditions of repayment.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : Sir, as I have been saying, these benefits can be availed of by the urban poor. The eligibility conditions are - the beneficiary should be educated up to the 9th standard, his annual family income should not exceed Rs. 11,850, he should be residing in the town for at least three years from the date of benefit, and he should not be a defaulter to any nationalised bank, financial institution or cooperative bank. These are the eligibility conditions.

The maximum unit cost will not exceed Rs. 1 lakh. A subsidy of 15 per cent will be provided under this particular scheme subject to a maximum of Rs. 7,500. The beneficiary has to contribute five per cent of the total project cost. Two or more persons, if they are eligible, can also join together and take up the venture.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been seen in the matter of loans to be given to poor people under integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme, the number of cases to be submitted to the banks is more than the target and the people have to run from pillar to post to get their loans sanctioned. Even after one or two years the amount which they get is half. Therefore, Mr. Speaker through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister that he should evolve any such plan so that the poor people could get the sufficient amount in a time bound period without any corruption.

[English]

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : Sir, this is programme sponsored by the Union Government and launched and pursued by the State Governments. Normally, at the District level bank meetings, it is the District lead bank which will look into whether the beneficiaries are being given these loans or not. If there are any specific issues that come to the notice of the Union Government, we can pursue from this point also.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, the other day you have also commented upon it and today also we are listening to this answer. Under the present system, the Central Government gives money and there is no

accountability of the State Governments as they are not answerable to the Central Government. I am the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Urban and Rural Development.

MR. SPEAKER : That is why I gave you the chance.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I would like to specifically ask as to what is the matching contribution a State is supposed to make to this scheme, how does the Central Government make sure that that matching contribution has been given, and what is the basis of their releasing money in instalments.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : Sir, normally this is a programme which has been launched for a period of five years. Every year, the participation or the subsidy component of the Centre and the States differ from programme to programme. Its range varies depending upon the type of programme. In certain projects it is 60:40 and in certain projects it is 50:50. In certain projects even 100 per cent is being borne by the Union Government. Normally, depending upon the proportion of 60:40, unless we receive the annual utilisation certificate, the second year's instalments are not released.

Sir, there is an in-built monitoring system in the programme itself. It depends upon receiving of the utilisation certificate and the release of the matching grant of 60:40, the whole problem is that this programme is only one year old. It has not come up to the stage of monitoring. It has been launched just in November, 1995. There is an in-built monitoring.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : My question is the other way round. There is an expert group commissioned by the Planning Commission, which has estimated that 40 per cent of the urban population is now living below the poverty line. First, I would like to know whether this is a fact or not. Secondly, consequent to the reforms, is urban poverty deepening and is unemployment increasing? If this is a fact, then what preventive measures are being taken to ensure that unemployment does not increase, the urban poverty does not increase. Otherwise, this type of schemes will hardly make any difference to the situation. You must see that preventive measures are taken to ensure that urban poverty does not deepen further and unemployment does not increase further.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : This is a very wider question and it is outside the scope of the PMIUEP. However, as far as the levels of the urban poverty and the range are concerned, it is normally the Ministry of Planning which will be answering that question. However, to my knowledge the urban poverty levels are not under preparation and an attempt was made by the earlier Government as far as this is concerned. The former Prime Minister had just introduced a new scheme to

add to the existing scheme so that a portion of the urban poor will also be taken care of under this programme.

SHRI K.S.R. MURTHY : The hon. Minister has said that the programme is only one year old and it cannot be reviewed...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : He has been the Secretary of the Rural Development. So, he knows

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen, you will be benefited by that.

(Interruptions)

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : I did not say that it cannot be reviewed, but it has not come up to the stage of review.

SHRI K.S.R. MURTHY : Even if it is one year old, it is worthwhile diagnosing the disease within one year. It is always better to see where we are going wrong so that those wrongs can be rectified.

My second submission is about the banks. The banks are not coming up in a big way in any programme, whatsoever, whether it is urban development or rural development. So, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that he should not ask to come with specific cases. Our specific case is that the banks are not doing their job. Kindly see that the banks respond and they come up in a big way to help this cause.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : The suggestion extended by the hon. Member are well taken care of. I will also address letters to all the States to pursue this aspect about the bank loans and then I would do the needful.

MR. SPEAKER : No, there is another question of banks and that is, banks are not being responsive.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : That is what I am telling. I will write letters to different States on this issue to pursue with the banks to see whether it can be taken care of...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : The hon. Finance Minister is here. He can respond to this...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I think the hon. Finance Minister has heard it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Kindly give a chance to your colleagues also. You had your time.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No.

(Interruptions)

SHRI I.D. SWAMI (Karnal) : Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Regarding the loaning problem, not only in this Yojana but even in other plans, the DRDO in the districts is looking after it; the States also are looking after it. As the hon. Minister has said, there is a lead bank which is represented on those bodies when the loans are sanctioned or the schemes are sanctioned.

12.00 hrs.

But still after the sanctioning of loans, after approving of the applications, the applications go back to the branch concerned and they again sit over it.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you want to have an answer?

SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Yes, Sir. Will the hon. Minister issue instructions and guidelines that on those plans, on those schemes, where the lead bank is represented on the DRDA and other planning bodies no second look by the banks will be allowed?

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : Sir, this is again a question regarding participation and willingness of the banks concerned. I have already told you that I will once again pursue this matter with the respective State Governments. I will uniformly write letters to all the State Governments to pursue this. If it is not possible, once again they will come back to us.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Oil Wells

*285. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether public Sector Oil Exploration Companies have discovered several oil wells during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the number of wells discovered, company-wise with locations;

(c) the quantity of oil exploited and still left in each of these wells, as on date;

(d) the target set for crude oil production during Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the VIII Five Year Plan (since 1992-93 to 1.10.1996) ONGC and OIL have made 38 oil