

### Shortage of Bitumen

1565. SHRI SUDHIR KUMAR GIRI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that bitumen shortage is holding up road construction works;

(b) if so details thereof; and

(c) steps taken by Government to remove the shortage so that the road construction is not stopped ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P.C. SETHI) : (a) and (b) Representations have been received from some of the State Governments/ Union Territories complaining about the inadequate availability of bitumen for construction works and requesting for increasing their allocations.

(c) Steps have been taken to maximise the production of bitumen in the refineries. An additional quantity of approximately 300,000 tonnes/ annum of bitumen is expected to be available with the commissioning of the Mathura refinery. Besides arrangements have been made for some imports to meet the demand.

### Area of Sedimentary Basins

1566. SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total area of sedimentary basins in the country on land and of shore;

(b) the names of the places and covering area where exploration work is done; and

(c) what is the reason for sudden discovery of so many places within the span of two years?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P.C. SETHI) : (a) The total area of sedimentary basins in the country is about 1.795 million sq. km. (onland and offshore upto 200 metres water depths.)

### (b) Oil & Natural Gas Commission

Exploration work including drilling has been carried out by ONGC in Cambay basin, Kutch and Saurashtra, Rajasthan basin, Punjab basin, Ganga basin, Assam-arakon basin, West Bengal basin, Mahanadi

basin, Krishna-Godavari basin, Cauvery basin, Andaman basin, East Coast basins and West Coast basins. The area of these basins is about 1,000,000 sq. km. and the work done so far would account for about 40% coverage of this area.

The following basins covering an area of about 2,28,000 sq. kms. are under different stages of exploration with no drilling activity so far.

1. Palar basin
2. Vindhyan basin
3. Narmada basin
4. Pranhita Godavari graben

### Oil India Limited

Oil India Limited (OIL) is exploring (alongwith production operations) in its 1990 sq. kms. of mining lease in Upper Assam i.e. Naharkatiya, Naharkatiya extension, Meran, Hugrijan and Dum Duma. It is exploring in the 551 sq. Km. of petroleum exploration licence area in Arunachal Pradesh, also called the Ningru PEL and has found oil in Kharsang. It has drilled 2 wells in Mahanadi basin offshore and is now taking up seismic surveys in Mahanadi basin onshore.

### Erstwhile Assam Oil Company

Digboi area in Assam.

(c) The geological and geophysical surveys and interpretations have been continuing in different areas for the last several years. As a result of this, number of prospects could be delineated and drilling on some of them has led to the discovery of hydrocarbons in a number of places.

### Loan Assistance to States by Rural Electrification Corporation For Fresh Projects

1567. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rural Electrification Corporation has recently sanctioned a sum of Rs. 18 crores of loan assistances for the implementation of 86 fresh project in some selected villages of 12 States;

(b) if so, the total number of identified villages in each of those States where such new projects are proposed to be taken up,

(c) how many villages of those States are proposed to be electrified and the total number of irrigation pumpsets proposed to be installed under the above scheme; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN) : (a) Rural Electrification Corporation has at the end of 31st August, 1981 approved sanction of loans amounting to Rs. 1749.762 lakhs for 86 rural electrification schemes in 12 States.

(b) to (d) The 86 Rural Electrification schemes envisage electrification of 1663 new villages and 1085 harijan bastis adjoining already electrified villages and energisation of 19156 agricultural pumpsets in 12 States. The Statewise details of the 86 schemes are indicated in the attached Statement.

## STATEMENT

*Statewise position of 86 schemes approved for sanction of loan by REC on 31st August, 1981.*

Sl. No.	Name of States	No. of Schemes	Loan amt. (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of villages/ Agricultural pump sets			
				Harijan Villages	New Vill-ages	Elfd. vill-ages	Hari- jan- Bastis
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	257.674	196	..	338	2750
2.	Gujarat	3	24.792	..	..	15	800
3.	Haryana	8	95.298	..	..	593	2240
4.	Karnataka	1	13.780	2	13	..	37
5.	Madhya Pradesh	13	404.048	597	..	..	4740
6.	Maharashtra	5	154.055	172	40	..	725
7.	Manipur	4	144.200	53	4	..	43
8.	Rajasthan	13	108.005	98	..	139	759
9.	Orissa	4	36.408	..	..	..	959
10.	Uttar Pradesh	7	97.314	..	..	..	3150
11.	Tamil Nadu	6	61.835	..	..	..	2520
12.	West Bengal	9	349.353	464	6	..	433
Total :		86	1749.762	1663	63	1085	19156

**Coal Mines Exploration with USSR Collaboration**

1568, SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-NAIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some coal mines are proposed to be exploited with the collaboration of USSR;

(b) if so, the names of the coal mines which have been identified for this purpose;

(c) the annual production capacity of each of these coal mines;

(d) the expected time of the beginning of the exploration of these mines; and

(e) the details about the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN) : (a) A few large capacity coal mines are proposed to be developed Soviet assistance.

(b) to (e) A Statement indicating the names of the coal projects which are proposed to be developed with Soviet cooperation is enclosed along with their annual production, capacity on completion, expected period of completion of the projects and the existing status.