

Printing of Urdu Publication "Ajkal"

4935. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of copies of Government's Urdu publication "Ajkal" that are printed;

(b) whether the number of copies are proposed to be increased in view of the great demand for and non-availability of the publication; and

(c) if so, steps taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI KUMUDHEN M. JOSHI): (a) 7500 for December 1981.

(b) and (c). The Government are already meeting the increased demand by raising the print order of the publication.

Utilisation of Power Houses in Bihar

4936. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position with regard to the utilization of the Sakri Power House, Darbhanga, Raj Power House, Darbhanga Electricity Company's previous Power House and other defunct thermal and diesel power houses of Bihar and, particularly, those of North Bihar and whether they are going to be fully activated; and

(b) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Survey for Oil in Tanjore, Tamil Nadu

4937. SHRI THAZHAI M. KARANANITHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state whether the Government have conducted survey in finding out oil resources from the underground in Tanjore District, Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): Yes, Sir. Tanjore District covers the major part of the onshore Cauvery Basin. The ONGC have carried out geological survey in Cauvery Basin since 1958, covering an area of 11,160 sq. kms. by reconnaissance surveys, 5140 sq. km. by semi-detailed surveys and 2860 sq. kms. by detailed surveys. In addition, 48 shallow bore holes of a total meterage of 11,073 metres were also drilled to supplement the surface data.

In the alluvial areas, geophysical surveys were started in 1959. A total of 16035 stations of gravity magnetic surveys, 1432 line kms. of electrical surveys and 10,870 line kms. of seismic surveys have been completed so far. Major portion of these surveys fall in Tanjore District.

Burnt/Wasted Petroleum Gas

4938. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that enormous quantities of petroleum gas are burnt out or wasted away at different refineries and the oil fields and off-shore drilling sites;

(b) if so, what is the average estimated annual quantum and value of the gas so burnt out or wasted at various refineries etc. separately; and

(c) what steps have so far been taken to eliminate this wastage, and