

Expenditure on oil exploration

4857. SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what amount has been spent on oil exploration, year wise during last 5 years;

(b) what has been the effectiveness of mode of employing Indian and foreign agencies and know how;

(c) what has been the progress in increasing share of Indian expertise and equipment;

(d) what increase has taken place in trained Indian oil exploring units and their strength during the last three years;

(e) have any schemes been drawn to assist other developing countries in oil exploration by India; and

(f) what has been the achievement in oil find and its utilisation during the last 3 years?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) The amount spent on exploratory drilling and surveys during the last five years by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) is as under:—

Year	ONGC (Rs. in Crores)	Oil
1976-77	73.88	..
1977-78	78.86	2.89
1978-79	79.38	5.93
1979-80	86.14	23.32
1980-81	110.80	27.45
1981-82	Accounts not yet finalised	4.23

(b) to (d). All the exploratory operations are managed entirely by Indian personnel of these two organisations. In selected highly specialised areas foreign

expertise and/or services are obtained on payment basis and arrangements are usually so made that transfer of technology also takes place. Practically all drilling and seismic survey is being carried out by Indian personnel in the on-shore areas. In the offshore areas, however, the work being done through charter-hired drilling rigs and survey vessels through foreign contractors is somewhat more. However, Indian personnel are progressively taking over these functions.

(e) Whereas there are no specific schemes of assistance for other developing countries, the Oil and Natural Gas Commission is increasingly seeking such opportunities and has achieved some success recently. Both ONGC and Oil India Limited have rendered such assistance in the past.

(f) During the last three years total production of crude oil has gone up from 11.73 million tonnes in 1979-80 to 16.18 million tonnes in 1981-82.

Fires in coalfields

4858. SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the position of fires going on in coalfields during the last three years in terms of old fires extinguished (cost involved), not yet controlled, controlled but not fully extinguished and new fires detected; and

(b) loss estimated due to unextinguished fires and steps taken to increase the capacity to combat coal mine fires?

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

Advice for captive plants to Industrial House

4859. SHRI DIGAMBER SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has advised the Industrial Houses to go in for captive