

were requested to lay necessary stress on micro hydel schemes. The States were also assured that effort will be made to evolve necessary mechanism to ensure delivery of power from the Central Stations to the States as per their shares. In view of the importance of agriculture to the country, the States were requested to ensure supply of power to agriculture for kharif crops for 10 hours per day.

The States agreed to make all efforts on the above basis for improving the power position.

Statement

List of Power Ministers and Power Chiefs of States/UTs who attended the Northern Region Power Minister's Conference at New Delhi on 6th July, 1983.

1. Power Minister, Haryana
2. Power Secretary, Haryana
3. Chairman, Haryana Electricity Board
4. Chief Minister, Himachal Pradesh
5. PWD Minister, Himachal Pradesh
6. Chairman, Himachal Pradesh Electricity Board
7. Power Commission, Jammu and Kashmir
8. Chief Minister, Punjab
9. Power Secretary, Punjab
10. Chairman, PSEB
11. Power Minister, Rajasthan
12. Power Secretary, Rajasthan
13. Chairman, Rajasthan State Electricity Board
14. Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh
15. Power Secretary, Uttar Pradesh
16. Chairman, UPSEB
17. Chief Commissioner, Chandigath
18. Chief Executive Councillor, Delhi
19. Chief Secretary, Delhi
20. General Manager, DESU.

Plan to Bottle Natural Petroleum Gas in Assam

321. SHRI BHUBANESWAR BHU-
YAN :
SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR :
SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA
PANDEY :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any step to bottle the Natural Petroleum Gas, abundantly available in Assam, for its commercial and domestic use as fuel and thereby to put a stop to the colossal wastage of crores of rupees annually by burning the natural gas as practiced in Assam for the last 25 years ; and

(b) if so, details thereof indicating if any consultations or discussions were held in this context with any foreign concerns from U.S.A., Japan, England, etc. either the collaboration or for scientific and technical know-how ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA) : (a) No scheme has been formulated for liquifying and bottling natural gas as such. However, a separation plant to debutanise the natural gas and to produce commercial Butane/Propane Mixture (LPG) of 60,000 tonnes per annum capacity has been put up by Oil India Limited (OIL) at Duliajan and is operating since August, 1982. Further, OIL is supplying natural gas to major industries such as Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited, tea gardens and other consumers for industrial use in Assam. Due to interruption caused by various factors in the upliftment of gas by the consumers a certain amount of unutilised associated gas is being presently flared, for which OIL is examining the possibility of storing the same.

(b) Since there is no scheme under consideration for liquifying and bottling natural gas, question does not arise.