

For the present, there is no proposal to consider conversion of other metre gauge sections in the area into broad gauge.

**Submarine pipe-line for crude oil drilled from Bombay High**

9370 SHRI NIHAR LASKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission will not wait for submarine pipe-line for conveying the crude from Bombay High sea shore;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) the other methods to be adopted when the production starts,

(d) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has also decided not to go in for shopping around world's shipyard for acquiring fixed drilling platforms needed for oil production at Bombay; and

(e) if so, the alternative measures proposed to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c). No definite plans have been formulated for the production and transportation of crude oil from Bombay High to the shore as only one well has so far been drilled on the structure. All the available alternatives of transport would be considered on merit.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise

**Power crisis in Gujarat**

9371. SHRI D. D. DESAI.  
SHRI H. M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Federation of Gujarat Mills and Industries have expressed

great concern over frequent power restrictions imposed by Government:

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that thousands of workers would become unemployed due to this power cut; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected from the Government of Gujarat and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

**"Difference on Collaboration for Off-shore Oil Exploration"**

9372 SHRI D. D. DESAI  
SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any differences have cropped up between his Ministry and four major oil companies for collaboration in off-shore oil exploration;

(b) if so, whether any negotiations are in progress between his Ministry and the Companies; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Negotiations are in progress with certain selected companies which have submitted proposals.

(c) It would not be in public interest to disclose any details at the stage.