

बिबरण

तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग ने वर्ष 1971-72, 1972-73 और 1973-74 के दौरान जम्मू एण्ड काश्मीर, राजस्थान, उत्तर प्रदेश, पंजाब, हिमाचल प्रदेश, बिहार, पश्चिमी बंगाल, उड़ीसा, असम, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, मिजोरम, नागालैण्ड, त्रिपुरा अण्डमान और निकोबार द्वीप, आंध्र प्रदेश, केरल, तमिलनाडु, पाण्डिचेरी, गुजरात, मध्य प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र और अरब सागर क्षेत्र के विभिन्न भागों में तेल और गैस के भूगर्भीय, गुरुत्व-चुम्बकीय और भूकम्पीय सर्वेक्षण किया। इसके अलावा आयोग ने जम्मू एण्ड काश्मीर गुजरात, असम, त्रिपुरा, राजस्थान, तमिल नाडु और पाण्डिचेरी राज्यों की 63 भूसंरचनाओं में और अरब सागर के 2 अप्रतटीय संरचनाओं में व्ययन कार्य किया। जहाँ तक आयल इण्डिया लि० का सम्बन्ध है इस कम्पनी ने असम के नाहरकाटिया और मोरन के अपने दो महत्वपूर्ण तेल क्षेत्र के संसाधनों का विकास करने और उनकी सीमा सिद्ध करने के अलावा तंगखत, नागाजन जोरजन और तारजन इलाके (सामान स्थान असम में स्थित है) में की अरुणाचल प्रदेश के खारसंग में गत तीन साल में तेल के उन्नत अन्वेषण कार्य को आरम्भ किया।

Fall in Production of Nitrogenous Fertilizer

2147. SHRI P. GANGADEB:
SHRI SHRIKISHAN
MODI:
SHRI D. D. DESAI:

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

(a) whether nitrogenous fertilizer production is going to be less than expected this year;

(b) if so, factors responsible for this;

(c) how much shortfall in production of nitrogenous fertilizer is expected; and

(d) steps taken by Government to meet the shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c). The production during 1974-75 is expected to be 14.33 lakh tonnes of nitrogen, as against the earlier estimate of 15 lakh tonnes. The shortfall in production is mainly due to mechanical failures, inadequate power supply, slippage in the commissioning of plants scheduled to be completed during the year and technological difficulties in stabilizing production at Cochin and Durgapur. Voltage/frequency fluctuations and inadequate availability of the requisite raw materials of the right quality have also contributed to the shortfall in production.

(d) The shortfall is proposed to be met to the extent possible by imports and optimum utilisation of the available fertilizers.

Steps to Solve Oil Crisis

2148. SHRI P. GANGADEB:

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL
BHATIA:

SHRI D. D. DESAI:

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

(a) whether his Ministry is optimistic of scraping through the oil crisis;

(b) if so, the factors on which the optimism is based;

(c) whether foreign exchange constraints in import of crude oil and petroleum products will not stand in the way of scraping through the crisis; and

(d) if so, measures to be taken in this direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MANJHI):

(a) to (d). In the past consumption of petroleum products in the country increased at a compound rate of about 9 per cent per annum. With the severe strain on our foreign exchange resources caused by the steep increase in prices of crude and petroleum products, steps have been taken to curb the non-essential consumption of petroleum products to the maximum extent and maintain availability during the current year at more or less the same level as last year. While nothing definite can be said about the future, the endeavour is to meet all the essential requirements necessary for sustained economic development of the country. To contain the outgo of foreign exchange for import of crude oil and petroleum products the following steps have been taken:—

(a). Efforts to maximise the production of indigenous crude have been intensified.

(b). Through various optimisation exercises the yield pattern of crude in the refineries has been adjusted in a manner to get the most economical yield pattern. Product specifications have also been adjusted as far as possible for this purpose.

(c). Fiscal measures have been taken to curb the consumption of some products like motor Gasoline, lubricating oils, bitumen, etc. Price of furnace oil has also been increased to encourage switch over to coal. Steps have been taken to encourage efficiency in the use of fuel. Availability of kerosene an item reduced to the maximum extent possible.

(d) Petroleum products which are surplus to our requirements are being exported. Export of value

added products has also been maximised.

(e) Import of crude oil under bilateral deferred payment has been arranged from Iraq and Iran.

A number of proposals and programmes are under consideration in international bodies to assist countries which have been severely affected on account of steep increase in oil prices and the consequent serious balance of payment position. A major concrete step has been the setting up by I.M.F. of the oil facility from which we have drawn some funds.

Impact of Credit Squeeze on Production of Drugs by Indian Sector Industry

2149. SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the effects of credit squeeze on the production of drugs by Indian sector of the industry;

(b) whether foreign firms who have got large reserve of capital are not affected by the credit squeeze; and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to help the Indian Sector by relaxing credit squeeze specially for the drugs industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a). It has been represented by the various associations of drug manufacturers that recent credit squeeze has adversely affected the growth of the drug industry. The possibility of credit squeeze affecting the availability of drugs was discussed in a meeting arranged on the 9th Oct., 1974 and was attended by the representatives of drugs industry. The