

Suggestions from Chief Minister of Kerala for offshore drilling in Kerala Coast

3836. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister of Kerala had written a letter requesting him to reconsider the decision regarding the offshore drilling in Kerala Coast;

(b) if so, the broad outlines regarding the suggestions made by the Kerala Chief Minister; and

(c) the decision of the Central Government thereon?

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

(a) and (b). In his letter to the then Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals, the Chief Minister of Kerala laid stress on taking immediate necessary steps for starting exploration for oil along the coast of Kerala. In reply, he was *inter alia* informed that on the basis of information available no drilling operations are at present envisaged in Kerala State during the Fifth Five Year Plan. Additionally, the Chief Minister was informed that oil exploration is a very risky and costly venture and the more prospective areas, whether on-shore or off-shore, receive a higher priority.

(c) The possibility of exploration operations in off-shore areas will be considered in future as and when resources and the necessary inputs are available.

Production and import of crude oil

3837. SHRI ARJUN SETHI:
SHRI RAM PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state the quantity of crude oil Gov-

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ernment have decided to extract from the wells in the country and the quantity targets to be imported during the Fifth Five Year Plan period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C P MAJHI):
Indigenous crude production expected during the year 1974-75, and the targets for the remaining years of the Fifth Five Year Plan are as follows —

Year	Estimated production
	(Million tonnes)
1974-75	7 62
1975-76	8 46
1976-77	10 25
1977-78	11 65
1978-79	11 72

Crude Oil imports during 1974-75 are expected to be 139 million tonnes. Imports during the remaining years of the Fifth Plan will depend largely on the allocation of foreign exchange that can be made available

राज्यों को मिट्टी के तेल की सप्लाई

3838. श्री विद्युति मिश्र : क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) वर्ष 1973 और 1974 में विभिन्न राज्यों को अलग-अलग कितना कितना मिट्टी का तेल (काळा और सफेद) और पेट्रोल सप्लाई किया गया;

(ख) वर्ष 1975 में कितनी मात्रा में मिट्टी का तेल और पेट्रोल सप्लाई किया गया अथवा करने का प्रस्ताव है ;