

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) During the past two year (1994-95 and 1995-96) oil was discovered in the following wells/structures :-

Well/Structure	Basin/area
B-15-2	West Coast (Offshore)
B-193-1	West Coast (Offshore)
WO-16-1	West Coast (Offshore)
WO-15-2	West Coast (Offshore)
B-15A-1	West Coast (Offshore)
GS-23-1	East Coast (Offshore)
Pundi-2	Cauvery (Onland)
Kizhvelur-1	Cauvery (Onland)
Khamboi-1	Cambay (Onland)
Bhekulajan	Assam
Rajali	Assam
Borhapjan	Assam
Rungaliting	Assam
Tamulikhat	Assam

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e). Do not arise in view of (b) above.

#### Gas to Jaisalmer

1604. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the rate fixed by the Union Government for the supply of gas to Jaisalmer region of Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Government have notified the revised gas rate for HBJ pipeline and other gas wells;

(c) whether the nitrogen percentage is about 40-40 per cent which is contributing to power generation has to be borne by the State government; and

(d) if so, the reasons and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) to (d). The price of natural gas excluding royalty, taxes and transportation charges is RS. 1850 per thousand cubic metres in Rajasthan as well as other parts of India except the North-Eastern States. The transportation charge along the HBJ pipeline is Rs. 850 per thousand cubic metres. The gas supplied to RSEB, Ramgarh has a large percentage of inert gases. RSEB, Ramgarh is allowed a reduction in the price on this account.

#### Plight of Kashmiri Pandits

1605. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indo-American Kashmiri Forum had

written to Assistant Secretary of State, Assistant Secretary for Democracy Human Rights and Labour and Shatuck whose office issues the Human Right Reports, for inclusion of Kashmiri Pandits' plight to be in Right Reports;

(b) if so, whether the Government had invited the delegation of Kashmiri Pandits, consisting of representatives from Panun Kashmir and another Pandits organisations for political dialogue recently;

(c) if so, the matter discussed therein; and

(d) action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Union Home Minister had held discussions in Feb., '96 with the political parties from Jammu & Kashmir including Kashmir migrant groups for initiating the political process in the State. Holding of elections in the State as a part of this process was particularly discussed. Different political parties and migrant groups had diverge views on holding elections in the State. Taking various views into consideration, however, Parliamentary elections were held in the State peacefully and successfully. Kashmiri migrants also voted through the facility of postal ballots.

#### Electronic Hardware Industry

1606. DR. T. SUBPARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the electronics hardware industry is reworking its strategy to attract more foreign investment in the absence of resources or cutting edge technology;

(b) if so, whether the hardware industry has not done well because of the huge entry costs; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government to attract foreign investments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Electronics Hardware Industry has not submitted any such strategy paper to the Government of India, Department of Electronics.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The measures already taken by the Government to attract foreign investment are given in the enclosed statement

Measures taken by the Government to attract foreign investment :

(i) Policy initiatives like exemption from locational limitations, abolition of licensing

except for four specific items, abolition of phased manufacturing programme and amendment to the MRTTP Act to facilitate investments.

- (ii) Liberalisation of Export-Import Policy by allowing free access to imported capital goods, value based advanced licensing scheme etc.
- (iii) Rationalisation of fiscal policy especially in the areas of duty structure, corporate taxation etc.
- (iv) Introduction of the Software Technology Park Scheme which seeks to provide infrastructural facilities for small software houses keen to enter the export market. The scheme also gives the flexibility to set up private STPs which can be done by bigger companies taking advantage of the duty free facilities offered for import of CG etc.
- (v) Introduction of Electronics Hardware Technology Park Scheme (EHTP) designed to meet the specific requirements of a globally oriented electronics sector. This would provide a flexible policy environment that would greatly facilitate doing business and making referential access to the vast Indian domestic market as an incentive for export production in the country.
- (vi) Encouraging foreign collaboration for investment and technology. This includes automatic approval for foreign direct investment upto 51% foreign equity in high priority industries and automatic permission for foreign technology agreements in such industries with certain ceiling on payments.
- (vii) Encouragements to NRIs and Overseas Corporate Bodies predominantly owned by NRIs to invest in India. This includes automatic approval upto 100% equity in priority industries.
- (viii) Implementation of a quality infrastructure programme called the Standardization, Testing & Quality Certification (STQC) Programme to promote the quality of Indian electronic goods.
- (ix) Participation in and sponsoring of seminars, exhibitions, business delegation etc. abroad and in India.
- (x) Establishment of a Software Services Support and Education Centre to improve the quality of Indian Software.

#### **Construction of Service Personnel Quarters**

1607. SHRI JAG MOHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a request from the NDMC for allotment of 1.5 acres of land in DIZ area (Havlock Square) for construction of service personnel quarters, for the Dhobis' (Washermen) has been pending in the Ministry for a long time;

(b) whether this long delay has caused a great deal of frustration amongst the 'dhobis' and also led to illegal encroachments and insanitation in the NDMC; and

(c) the time by which the allotment of land is likely to be made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) . Allotment of land to N.D.M.C. in DIZ Area has been made vide this Ministry's letter No. J-13019/1/94-LD (USLT) Dated 12.7.1996.

#### **Problems faced by Coastal People**

1608. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of pathetic conditions of persons residing near the sea-areas in Mumbai, Maharashtra;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and steps being taken to safeguard their lives and property ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b). The State Government of Maharashtra has informed that they are aware of the pathetic conditions of persons residing near sea-areas in Mumbai and that while no study has been undertaken in this regard, certain preliminary works have been carried out by the Housing and Special Assistance Department of the State Government.

(c) As Urban Development is a State subject, necessary steps in this regard are to be undertaken by the State Government. No proposal has been submitted by the Government of Maharashtra for urban development assistance from the Government of India.

#### **Closure of Golan and Lokagan Vallies**

1609. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Golan and Lokagan Vallies are not