

(ii) Need to check the decline in oil production in oil wells in Gujarat and Bombay off shore

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (Berrampur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I wish to place before the august house an urgent matter of public importance under Rule 377.

According to studies made by a task force, more than 700 oil wells in Gujarat and Bombay High offshore have fallen sick. The production in several other oil wells has declined due to the major constraint of reservoir, defective operational process and inadequate surface facilities.

Oil and Natural Gas Commission have made huge investments in these offshore oil wells. Annual production potential of three million tonnes now remain idle unless if immediate steps are taken to plug the loopholes and revamp the existing management system. Otherwise, several other oil wells will also fall sick. ONGC will not be able to achieve their production target set for the Eighth Plan period. The country which is now facing acute oil crisis, cannot afford further decline in oil production by any public sector oil company.

All problems in the Bombay High and Gujarat oil fields should be identified and necessary steps taken to overcome these problems. The planning exercise should be made more scientific and must have in built provision to account for the slippage. Planning and monitoring cells for each project and region should be established with the participation of grass-root workers. Production planning, which is done two years before the start of the Five Year Plans, must be reviewed and updated, depending upon the reservoir performance and input availability.

In view of this, I urge the Government to analyse and diagnose the cause of falling oil production and take remedial measures to increase production.

(iii) Need to set up electronic telephone exchanges in Pilibhit Parliamentary Constituency in Uttar Pradesh

[*Translation*]

DR. P.R. GANGWAR (Pilibhit): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, people have been facing great difficulties in my constituency, because the telecommunication system there is continuously going from bad to worse. Nobody has been paying attention to the problems inspite of repeated complaints lodged to the officers there. No action is taken on the complaints lodged by the common man even for months together. Telephones are of no use there.

I would request the honourable Minister that new electronic exchanges may be installed there immediately so that communication system in the area functions properly.

(iv) Need to take steps to control recurring floods in Sitapur, Uttar Pradesh

SHRI JANARDAN MISHRA (Sitapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as per the report in regard to the flood situation in the country, the total affected area in the year 1960 was 76.3 lakh hectares out of which 26.5 lakh hectares was agricultural land, in 1970 the total affected area was 84.5 lakh hectares, out of which agricultural land was 48.5 lakh hectares. Similarly, in the year 1980 the total affected area was 114.2 lakh hectares out of which agricultural land was 55.5 lakh hectares. It is evident from the above data that the loss due to the floods has been on the increase inspite of the measures taken to control the floods. The document on Seventh Five Year Plan (1985) clearly admits that expenditure on flood control measures in different five year plans has increased and at the same time the total area covered under flood control measures has also gone up. The document has also disclosed that Government has been spending more on flood relief measures than on flood control measures. The matter of concern is not that