

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Under the New Exploration Licensing Policy Govt. has offered 48 blocks for bidding, of which 10 are onland blocks, 26 are shallow water blocks and 12 are deep water blocks.

Of these 2 onland blocks fall in West Bengal and 3 offshore blocks fall in the West Bengal/North East Coast areas.

(c) and (d) The last date for submission of bids is fixed as 18th May, 1999.

(e) and (f) Since 1.4.97 ONGC has located Hydrocarbon finds in Cauvery, Krishna-Godawari, Cambay and Bombay Offshore Basins of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and West Coast.

During the year 1997-98 six new Hydrocarbon finds were made by ONGC resulting in accretion of 3.31 MMT in place volume of Hydrocarbons. Four new finds have also been made during the current year.

#### Local Call Facility

878. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide local call facility between Akola district and adjoining districts of Yeotmal Amravati, Washim and Buldana in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this facility is likely to be made available; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) As per policy Local Call facility at 180 sec. pulse rate (i.e. inter dialling without STD code) has been provided from SDCAs (short distance charging areas) of Akola District to adjacent SDCAs in Yeotmal, Amravati, Washim and Buldana district.

(b) the details are given in the attached statement.

(c) The present policy envisages provision of local call facility at 180 sec. pulse rate (i.e. inter dialling facility without STD Code) only.

1. Between two adjacent short distance charging Areas (SDCAs)
2. When the Radial distance between short distance charging centres of two short distance charging Area is upto 20 kms. (30 kms. in special case)

As such other areas cannot be covered by the policy.

#### Statement

Sl.No.	Name of District	Name of SDCA	Adjacent SDCA	Name of District
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Akola	Akpla	Akot Balapur Barshitakli Daryapur Malegaon Murtizapur	Akola Akola Akola Amravati Washim Akola
2.	Akola	Akot	Akola Balapur Chikhaldara Daryapur Dharani Jalgaon-Jamod	Akola Akola Amravati Amravati Amravati Buldhana

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Akola	Balapur	Akola Akot Malegaon Nandura Khamgaon Jalgaon-Jamod	Akola Akola Washim Buldhana Buldhana Buldhana
4.	Akola	Murtizapur	Akola Barshitaki Mangrupir Amravati Daryapur Nandgaon Darwha	Akola Akola Washim Amravati Amravati Amravati Yeotmal
5.	Akola	Barshitaki	Akola Murtizapur Malegaon Mangrupir	Akola Akola Washim Washim

### Anaemia in Pregnant Women

879. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the deaths due to Iron deficiency in pregnant women is increasing enormously in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the same; and

(d) whether any pilot projects have been framed to eradicate this malady on long term basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) to (d) Countrywide regular data on cause specific maternal deaths are not available. The Registrar General of India through survey of causes of Death (Rural) has compiled information on deaths due to child birth and pregnancy (Maternal Death) for five years from 1990 to 94. Deaths due to anaemia are the second most common cause of maternal death. The attached Statement furnishes details of maternal deaths due to various causes.

While the Department has not specifically commissioned any pilot project in regard to anaemia among pregnant women, control of anaemia through provision of Iron and Folic Acid tablets with a strong Information, Education and Communication campaign is a major objective of the Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme.