

Development of Kakinada Deep Water Port

1887. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has approved the draft agreement proposed to be entered into with Singapore based ISPL's bid for the development of the Kakinada deep water port;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount involved in this project; and

(d) if so, the time by which this port is likely to be developed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN):

(a) Yes, sir.

(b) (1) Agreement envisages OMST (Operate, Maintain, Share and Transfer) of the existing three berths at Kakinada Deep Water Port and construction of 4th berth on BOMST (Build, Operate, Maintain, Share and Transfer) basis.

(2) Concession period is for 20 years with provision to extend twice for 5 years each on mutually agreed terms.

(3) Sharing of income from 20% to 22% or minimum guaranteed amounts from Rs. 7.00 crores to Rs. 25.00 crores during the period from 1998-99 to 2018-19 yearly whichever is higher.

(4) Lands are proposed to be given on lease whereas movable assets on outright sale with depreciation as per UNCTAD norms. At the end of concession period, all immovable assets will revert to Government of Andhra Pradesh free of cost and the movable assets at the cost arrived as per UNCTAD norms.

(c) and (d) Concessionaire invest Rs. 3956.00 millions in two phases during the concession period.

Performance of DoT

1888. SHRI S.S. QWAI: SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether DoT continues to lag behind the targets in respect of direct exchange lines, village public telephones (VPTs) and trunk automatic exchanges;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Department has tried to prevent its shortfalls by devising vendor rating system;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any studies have been conducted on the VRS models contained from the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other countries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to meet the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) and (b) DoT has been achieving the target of DELs every year for the last more than six years. In the case TAX lines also DoT achieved the target during the last five years except during 1995-96 due to non-availability of equipment. In case of VPTs, DoT has been lagging behind for various reasons such as non-availability of the various components of equipment.

(c) and (d) Vendor Rating System gives due weightage to delivery performance and thereby helps in reducing shortfall.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e).

Joint Venture Agreement between Japanese Company & Enron for Supply of LNG

1889. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mitsui Shipping Line, a Japanese company propose to transport liquified natural gas to India under a joint venture agreement with an Enron subsidiary;

(b) if so, the name of the Enron subsidiary with which the joint venture has been signed; and

(c) the terms and conditions of this agreement alongwith the total expenditure to be incurred on the transportation of Liquified Natural Gas to India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) M/s Dabhol Power Company (DPC) have obtained permission from the Directorate General of Shipping for chartering in a foreign flag LNG vessel to transport LNG for the Dabhol Project. They have proposed to set up a Joint Venture for this purpose between M/s. Mitsui OSK Line, Japan, Atlantic Commercial Finance Inc. (an affiliate of Enron) and Shipping Corporation of India (SCI). Financial arrangements and other conditions are under negotiation.

Functioning of CGHS Dispensaries

1890. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:
DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development in their 78th Report on the CGHS tabled in the Rajya Sabha recently has severely indicated the Government on the overall functioning of the CGHS dispensaries;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve the state of affairs in the CGHS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development in their 78th Report of CGHS has indicated the Government on overall functioning of the CGHS dispensaries. However, the Central Government takes suitable action to improve its functioning from time to time.

Ayurvedic Cure for Diabetes

1891. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Ayurvedic formulation is proving to be effective cure for diabetes;

(b) if so, the time by which it would be available for sale in the market; and

(c) its approximate estimated market price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) to (c) Vijayasar (Petrocarpus Marsupium) heart wood has been used by Ayurvedic Physicians in the management of Madhumeha (Diabetes mellitus) since ancient times.

The Central Council for Research in Ayurveda & Siddha (CCRAS), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is carrying out multi centric trials of a drug code named Ayush - 82 containing meshashringi, karvellak, Amra and Jambu.

The Indian Council of Medical Research has initiated Research on Vijayasar (Petrocarpus Marsupium).

Marketing and pricing of these drugs will depend upon the final outcome of the research under way.

Merger of Oil India and Bongaigaon Refinery

1892. SHRI A.C. JOS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Government have set up a committee to examine the feasibility of merger of Oil India and Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals;

(b) if so, whether the committee have since submitted its recommendations; and

(c) if not, the time by which the committee is likely to submit its report and the final decision for merger is to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Government had approved the appointment of an Adviser to examine all alternatives and options including those recommended by the Disinvestment Commission. The recommendation of BRPL Board on the Report of Adviser has been received. The report of Adviser broadly covers aspects such as financial analysis, marketing of products, future business scenario and strategic alliance opportunities for BRPL.

To meet the challenge of de-regulation and liberalisation, the Government have appointed a Committee to analyse and study the competitiveness, strengths, weaknesses, future opportunities and the optimal future