

[Shri Nihar Ranjan Laskar]

Assam is under President's rule now. At least for another six months it will be under President's rule. In the meantime we may need some enactments when parliament will not be in session. So, it is as per the usual practice that we have done it. Whatever he has said, I oppose that.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"The leave be granted to introduce a Bill to confer on the President the power of the Legislature of the State of Assam to make laws."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR:  
I introduce the Bill.

12.19 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) SUPPLY OF COOKING GAS THROUGH UNDERGROUND PIPE LINES TO THE PEOPLE OF ANKLESHWAR AND BROACH, GUJARAT

SHRI AHMED MOHAMMED PATEL (Broach): Under rule 377 I am making the following statement:

Ankleshwar Oilfields are best amongst the country's On-shore oilfields producing about 700 tonnes of oil and 9.4 lakhs cubic metres Gas per day.

While almost the entire quantity of gas produced from the wells drilled in this area is supplied to various industries of Baroda, the people of Ankleshwar town and Broach city, the headquarters of Taluka and District in which these wells are situated and many of whom are/were the owners of the rich land where huge and high quantities of this black gold is found and who being the sons of the soil have prior right to its production, are denied gas even for domestic purpose.

The requirement of these two cities Ankleshwar and Broach is about 15,000 to 20,000 cubic metres per day which is like a drop in the vast ocean of 9,40,000

cubic metres of the gas being daily produced on its own soil.

According to the present commitment of the ONGC to various industries (including Baroda Municipal Corporation) at Baroda it has to supply minimum 6,97,150, maximum 7,38,500 cubic metres of gas per day.

However, the verification of the total gas actually used by these industrial units (including Baroda Municipal Corporation) on five days i.e. 16th January, 17th January, 21st March, 22nd March and 23rd March, 1982 will prove that their total daily average requirement comes to 6,42,929 cubic metres only. In other words, these customers have not been able to utilise even the minimum quantity they are supposed to purchase from ONGC as per the contract. There is a surplus of about 54,221 cubic metres per day, from which the requirement of Ankleshwar and Broach can be easily met. If necessary, the production can be slightly increased.

The Ankleshwar Municipality has passed a resolution for laying underground pipe lines for the purpose of supplying gas to its citizens for domestic purpose. They have a right to get the gas on priority basis as the sons of the soil that produces the huge quantity and high quality of crude oil, natural gas apart; these cities have acquired a special significance inasmuch as an area spreading over hundred of acres has been acquired by GIDC and is being developed as an industrial estate. Moreover, there is a huge 600 crores rupee project (Narmada Valley Fertilizer Corporation) near Broach city.

It is reliably learnt that two LPG Plants, one at ONGC-CTF at Ankleshwar and another at Olpad are being proposed to be started shortly and so, in view of the facts and figures cited above, it is evident that the demand for the supply of gas of Ankleshwar and Broach is not only justifiable but quite feasible and should, therefore, be accepted without further delay.