

like to know what is the quantum already upon and whether the Government of India is sticking to this, and secondly whether this entire assistance of USSR will go directly to the State or not.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: The hon. Member is a very experienced parliamentarian. However, it will be good if instead of relying totally on his memory, he relies on the documents, on the records of the House. Last time, when I had replied to this question, I had made it specifically clear that this is a State project and we have decided to extend bilateral assistance to this project through the Power Finance Corporation. So, there was no question of my saying what the hon. Member is trying to attribute to me. I have also made this point that at some stage this decision was taken that bilateral assistance will not be made available to the State power projects. Because of it, the West Bengal Government had gone ahead and placed orders on the indigenous manufacturers for the procurement of the equipments. Since this order has already been placed, we have to work out the details. We don't want the West Bengal Government to cancel these orders. The West Bengal Government had placed the orders for the boilers which are to be used at the Bakreshwar project. We will have to see as to whether these equipments can be used in some other such projects or not. We don't want to cancel these orders. The order have been placed on the indigenous manufacturers and the details are being worked out. We will try to ensure that this project is implemented as per the scheduled.

Self Sufficiency in Petroleum Products

*744. **PROF. P.J. KURIEN:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the anticipated demand and production of Petroleum products by the end of the Eighth Plan;

(b) whether the target of self-reliance is likely to be achieved by the turn of the

century; and

(c) if so, the details of the perspective plan made in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The anticipated demand of petroleum products by the end of the VIII five year plan is 77.7 million tonnes.

Production estimates can be arrived at only after the finalisation of the projects for new refineries and expansion of existing refineries in the VIII Plan.

(b) No firm projection can be made in this regard.

(c) Proposals to set up three new grass-root refineries at Karnal, Mangalore and Numaligarh (Assam) and a Crude Distillation Unit near Nagapattinam in the Cauvery basin are under the consideration of Government. Refining capacity will also be further increased through low cost expansions and debottlenecking. Proposals for three additional grassroot refineries are also under the consideration of Government. However these three additional refineries can come up only during the IX Plan period.

It is also the Government's endeavour to increase production of crude oil through intensification of exploration activities and use of enhanced oil recovery techniques.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, I had asked the production estimates of the Eighth Plan. It is very unfortunate that so far Government is not having any idea as to what would be the projection estimates in the Eighth Plan period. I fail to understand how can the Government function like this. The Eighth Plan period has already been started but they still do not have any estimated figure. Petroleum is a very vital sector and a lot of foreign exchange is spent on it. I would like to know why the Government is still sleeping on this. They don't even have the idea as to what would be the production figure at the end of this Plan period.

Secondly, I had asked as to when we will be self-reliant in this field and the reply given by the Minister states, "No firm projection can be made in this regard." I would say Government should have a master plan for this vital sector. So, I would specifically like to know from the Minister as to what would be the production figure for the Eighth Plan period and what are your plans for achieving self-reliance in this vital sector.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, I have got figures for the indigenous production of crude oil for a few years. I will give the information to you. In the year 1989-90, the crude oil production was 34 million tonnes. The estimated crude oil production in the year 1990-91 is 35.90 million tonnes. In 1994-95, that is at the end of Eighth Plan period which my friend is asking for, the estimated crude oil production will be 50.72 million tonnes. So, we have plans. I have given these figures for the benefit of the House. In several cases, the demand for petroleum products is increasing. There cannot be full self-sufficiency. We have achieved about 60 per cent self-sufficiency. This will be kept up in the Eighth Plan period also. May I say this that the demand for petroleum products by the end of the Eighth Plan will be near about 77 million tonnes. The deficit in petroleum products will be 18 million tonnes in 1994-95. The deficit will be 42 million tonnes in the year 1999-2000.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: He has stated that 60 per cent of our needs will be met by the indigenous production. He also cautioned us that we are not going to achieve self-sufficiency at all. It is because the demands for petroleum products are on the increase. That is fine. But that does not speak good of the Government. I feel that the Government should aim at bringing self-sufficiency. It can be done in two ways.

Firstly, you must think about the ways by which you can curtail the use of the petroleum products. I would like to ask the Government whether you have any plan to see that petroleum-diesel or petrol or what-

ever it is- is produced in sufficient quantity.

Secondly, the Rajiv Gandhi Government had initiated a drive for non-conventional energy sources. A lot has to be tapped from non-conventional energy sources. That has to be a substitute for petroleum products. I find that this Government is not giving sufficient attention to that. That is a way by which the use of petroleum products can be curtailed. So, by encouraging production of non-conventional energy sources, you can curtail the use of petroleum products. There is a wide potential in that area in this country. I would like to know whether the Government would like to continue the efforts started by the Rajiv Gandhi Government in regard to non-conventional energy sources. There are already areas of oil exploration, but you have to find new areas also. I know something has been done regarding Kerala Coast. I would also like to know which are the new areas in oil exploration that you are going to begin, including Kerala Coast, Tamil Nadu Coast-Cauveri Basin-that is in the South. I would like to know what action you are going to take in these areas.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I would have to agree with many of the things raised by my friend Prof. Kurien. I think, as a country, we have to think of control and restraint on the consumption of petroleum products. It is because the gap between the demand and the supply is increasing. It is bound to increase in future. Though we are trying to encourage non-conventional fuel, we have not fully succeeded in that, but we are making our efforts in that direction. I welcome the suggestion. Our effort will be to see that non-conventional energy is utilised more and more. We will concentrate our efforts on that. But in the meantime, may I take the House into confidence and say that there has got to be restraint and control in the use of petroleum products.

The other day I made a suggestion in this House about it. With the approval of Parliament, I want to introduce one holiday every week throughout India from petrol pumps. I want to seek your help and coopera-

tion in this regard. I want to control and put some restraint on the consumption of petrol. This year, the demand for petrol is about 14 per cent more than last year. If this goes on, we will need foreign exchange on a large scale. We cannot afford to use this much foreign exchange for this. We are taking various steps to conserve energy. We are improving our fuel efficiency in many sectors. There is a Research Cell which is functioning very effectively. But, still it has got its limitations. Perhaps in future we will be facing a great crisis in the petroleum sector.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is very essential to increase production of petroleum products. But at the same time its distribution is also very important. There is a lot of bungling in its distribution. I would like to put a question containing 2 or 3 parts from the hon. Minister. What is the policy regarding distribution of Petroleum Products? How many distributors are there in the country? What is the number of scheduled castes and scheduled Tribes among them and is there any reservation for them. How many distributors are to be appointed in Delhi this year?

[*English*]

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: This question does not arise out of this at all.

MR. SPEAKER: It is upto to reply to it or not.

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: As for as trying to increase our production of crude oil. But there is a limit to that. Only God or dame luck can help us and give us another Bombay High so that we may be able to reach 100 per cent self-sufficiency. As far as the second part of the question is concerned, we are trying our best; we are improving our production quite a bit. In 1989-90, we had increased the production of crude oil nearly by 2 million tonnes. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I asked about the distributor because the bungling is going on in its distribution.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: He cannot reply to that

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please tell him that distribution is an important matter.

[*English*]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: A detailed report has been submitted to the Government of India for setting up a refinery at Mangalore and also a petro-chemicals complex costing Rs. 1,600 crores. The hon. Minister was also in the Government of Karnataka. Now Mr. Ramakrishna Hegde is in the Planning Commission. The hon. Minister talks about only an oil refinery; he does not talk about a petro-chemicals complex. It was to come to PAC in the month of October when we were about to hand over our charge to this Government. It was in the month of November. What has happened to the petro-chemicals complex?

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I am not talking about the petro-chemicals complex in Mangalore, because there are several projects which are pending before this Government on this sector. We have to take an overall view on which project will go in the 8th Plan and which project will not go in the 9th Plan. During the regime of the previous Government, all sorts of projects were there, not one. There are several projects which are pending in my Ministry. We have got to make a selection out of them. Therefore, I cannot just tell the House which project on the petro-chemicals side will be taken up in the 8th Plan.

[Translation]

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the consumption of petroleum is increasing in proportion to increase in the number of private vehicles. The number of private vehicles is increasing because most of the people keep many vehicles as status symbol and for comfort and luxury. I, therefore, want to know from the hon. Minister whether Government will take any action to restrict the growing number of private vehicles and strengthen our public transport system.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Maruti Car Distributors in Southern Region

*740. **SHRI A. N. SINGH DEO:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maruti Udyog Limited had decided to appoint distributors for the sale of their products in Southern region;

(b) the names of places where these distributors were to be appointed and whether applications for distributor-ships were invited and deposits accepted;

(c) whether distributors have been appointed for these places; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d). Maruti Udyog Limited already has dealers in South India. A new dealership was advertised for Belgaum. An earnest money deposit of Rs. 10,000/- each was collected against a total of fortyfive

valid applications received. The applications received are under scrutiny.

Implementation of Measures Regarding Customers Services in Indian Airlines

*743. **SHRI NARSINGRAO SURYA-WANSHI:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a package of measures was proposed by the Indian Airlines in January, 1990 to improve customer services to refurbish the Airlines image in the light of several problems facing it;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of measures out of them implemented so far; and

(d) the reasons for non-implementation of the remaining measures?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The major measures announced in December, 1989 are as follows:-

(A) Accurate and prompt dissemination of Information

(i) Provision of additional High Frequency-Single Side Band HF-SSB sets at 19 more stations;

(ii) Safdarjung Airport Booking Office of Indian Airlines to be provided with Auto-Answering Machines;

(iii) Provision of 20 additional telephone lines; and