

(b) if so, whether a Central team visited the site and submitted a report:

(c) the estimated cost of the proposed project; and

(d) when it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI KALYAN SINGH KALVI): (a) to (d) Two sites near Hospet identified by M s Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL). These sites were visited by a team of the Site Selection Committee for selection of sites for large thermal power Stations set up by the Department of Power. The Committee submitted its report in June, 1990. It is observed that the two sites at Vyasankera and Torangallu require a number of inputs to be tied up and require further investigations by M s KPCL. No feasibility report to set up a Super Thermal Power Plant at Hospet in Karnataka is under consideration.

Crude Oil Potential in North-East

*132. **SHRI MONORANJAN SUR:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Big crude oil potential in North-East" appearing in the 'Statesman' (Delhi edition) dated February 8, 1991;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The matter had already received the attention of the Government of India who have now constituted a multi-disciplinary, multi-organization Task Force to examine all

related issues such as estimation of reserves, identification of right kind of rocks coal for extraction of oil, the most cost-effective process for doing so, and to assess the impact of coal/shale mining on the environmentally fragile area where such coal/oil shales occur.

[Translation]

Standard of Catering Services

*133. **SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the standard of catering services in the trains from New Delhi Delhi to Puri and Howrah is poor.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor

(c) whether the quality of the food has not improved despite increase in the prices per meal; and

(d) if so, the details of instructions given to check the irregularities and also to improve the standard of catering services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Quality is ensured irrespective of price. The following steps are taken for improving catering services:—

(i) Modernisation of Base Kitchens/Refreshment Rooms.

(ii) Introduction of Casserole Service.

(iii) Training of Staff and Supervisors

(iv) Elimination of Charcoal and use of LPG.

(v) Intensive inspections.