

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE : (SHRI A.K. SEN) : (a) and (b). Kind attention is invited to replies given to USQ. No.129 dated the 22nd January, 1985 and USQ No.553 dated the 19th March, 1985. The Election Commission has informed that "rolls of all the 126 constituencies have been published in draft." Rolls of 21 constituencies have been finally published; final rolls for balance of constituencies will be published after disposal of all claims and objections filed.

Oil Drilling in Mahanadi Basin Orissa

*20. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the funds provided during Sixth Plan for oil drilling in Mahanadi basin, Orissa and progress made so far;

(b) the programmes and projects to be taken up during the year 1985-86 and remaining years of Seventh Plan;

(c) the estimated cost of the projects and funds to be provided during the year 1985-86; and

(d) the steps taken by his Ministry to complete drilling within the stipulated period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) During the VI Plan, Oil India Ltd. spent about Rs. 144 crores on exploration in Mahanadi Basin.

In addition to onshore and offshore seismic surveys, 8 offshore wells have been drilled. The last well is under testing.

(b) While the programme for the VII Plan is yet to be finalised, during 1985-86, it is proposed to drill 4 wells, including a part well, with a total metreage of 12,000 metres.

(c) The outlay for 1985-86 is about Rs. 45 crores.

(d) The equipment and services required for offshore drilling have been hired and

steps have been taken to hire them for on-shore. The locations to be drilled have been identified.

Karnal Refinery

1. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY:
DR. A. K. PATEL:
SHRI SODE RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on Karnal Refinery, which is being set up to meet the requirement of petroleum products of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir and Delhi has stopped because the Planning Commission has not made any provision for it in the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether any scheme has been chalked out to ensure that the work on this refinery does not stop;

(c) if so the details thereof and the time by which the production is likely to be started there; and

(d) whether some foreign parties have shown interest in the new scheme and if so, the names thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) to (d). Government are exploring the possibility of implementing the Karnal Project in the context of the constraint on resources in the public sector. Some private parties have shown interest in participating in joint ventures and the matter is under consideration.

Satellite Communication System

2. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has decided to introduce a Satellite Communication System for improving the quality reliability and speed of information under its ambitious communication programme; and