

is being made in that regard.

**SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA :**  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not have information about the question asked by the hon. Member. If he gives a notice and gives in writing, he can get information in this regard.

[English]

**DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :** I want to know whether he had delineated the zone of formation of hydro-carbon in Tripura? if so, what is the name of the organisation which had done it? In the world there is no technique to assess the mineable reserves of hydrocarbon or gas. Based on that, will the Minister tell whether it is probable recoverable reserve or established reserve ?

**SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA :**  
I have already stated that this is an established reserve of gas, which means that the gas which can be available from various wells which have been drilled.

[Translation]

#### Registration of Small Scale Units

\*455. **SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI :**

**SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :**

Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the initial period of the proposed registration of small scale units is valid for one year;

(b) if so, the period for which the same can be extended in the event of non-setting up of unit by entrepreneur within the period of one year;

(c) whether any proposal of Madhya Pradesh Government is pending with the Development Commissioner (Small Scale Industries) for extending the validity period of the proposed registration of small scale units; and

(d) If so, the action taken by Government to simplify the rules in this regard ?

[English]

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the event of the unit not being able to come into existence within one year's period, the validity of provisional registration can be extended by another year by the Director of Industries of the State. Further, the validity of the provisional registration can be extended beyond two years by the State Director of Industries with the concurrence of DC (SSI).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Final decision has yet to be taken in the matter.

[Translation]

**SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI :** I would like to know from the Hon. Minister the details of the proposal of Madhya Pradesh Government which is pending with him, the date since when it is pending and the reason for not accepting or rejecting the same so far ?

[English]

**MR. SPEAKER :** Question Hour is over now.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

#### Bye-Products of Bombay High

\*453. **SHRI SHANTARAM POT-DUKHE :** Will the Minister of **PETROLEUM** be pleased to state :

(a) the total petroleum production in Bombay High during 1984-85;

(b) the bye-products of Bombay High; and

(c) whether Government proposed to tap them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) (a) The total production of crude oil from Western Offshore fields during 1984-85 was 20.1 million tonnes.

(b) and (c). The bye-product of the crude oil is associated natural gas which in any case comes out with crude oil. About 60 percent of this gas is utilised for fertilizer and power production and in the refineries at Bombay.

#### Retention Price System for Fertilizers

\*454. SHRI R. ANNANAMBI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Retention Price System for fertilizers has failed to achieve the desired objectives and has led to increasing quantum of subsidy;

(b) whether the failure of the said System has forced the Government to go in for more imports ; and

(c) if so, the present thinking of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) The retention price scheme for fertilizers is linked with the Government policy to make the fertilizers, the most important input for increasing agricultural production, available to the farmers at reasonable and controlled prices. The retention price scheme is meant to encourage and increase indigenous production of fertilizers by enabling the manufacturers to obtain a reasonable return on their investment. The objective of the retention price scheme has been fully met,

going by the substantial increase in the production of fertilizers over the years. Incidentally, the retention prices scheme is reviewed periodically, and to ensure that changes to improve its effectiveness further to achieve the objective are duly ensured and the increase in subsidy burden is obviated, except where such increase is justified on account of (a) increase in input costs and (b) increase in volume of production, domestically. With this end in view, currently a High Powered Committee is reviewing the present system for suggestions for improvements, etc.

(b) Though production of fertilizers has increased over the years, helped by the retention price scheme, there has been a progressive increase in demand also due to the growth of agriculture. Imports have, therefore, to be made to supplement our own production.

(c) As substantial imports of fertilizers are result of demand growth outstripping the indigenous capacity for production, the basic thrust for future of Government policy is to ensure installation of additional capacity based on reliable technology. In this context, it may be noted that two-twin units of large gas-based fertilizers plants are under commissioning and would be in production soon, and in addition, 6 gas-based plants have been cleared for implementation during the 7th Five Year Plan. Imports are expected to be minimised after these plants go into production.

[Translation]

#### Linking of Faizabad (U.P.) with Major Cities by S.T.D.

\*456. SHRI R. P. SUMAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Faizabad District headquarters in Uttar Pradesh was linked with major telephone exchanges including Delhi, Patna, Jaipur and Bhubneshwar by S.T.D. service in August, 1984;

(b) if so, whether this service is still operative;