

**SHRI MURLI DEORA :** The real solution to meet the urban fuel gas requirements is through pipeline as they have done in western countries. The Government has been considering for a long time the proposal to supply domestic fuel through pipeline to the Bombay city. I would like to know whether this scheme has been finalised and whether the required quantity of gas has been allocated to the Bombay Gas Company. How much time will it take the materialise finally?

**SHRI BRAHMA DUTT:** I require a separate notice for this question.

#### Use of Krishna Basin Gas By Andhra Pradesh

\*313. **SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the "Newstime" dated 12 September, 1986 under the caption 'Andhra Pradesh reluctant to use Krishna basin gas';

(b) if so, whether 1.5 lakh cubic metres of natural gas can be made available per day for commercial application; and

(c) the likely date from which the gas will be made available to prospective entrepreneurs?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT):**  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) About 1.5 lakh cubic metres of gas per day is expected to be available by about the middle of 1987.

**SHRI V.SOBHANADREESWARA RAO:** I am happy that at least the hon. Minister has come forward with a categorical answer that about 1.5 lakh cubic metres of gas per day is expected to be available by about the middle of 1987. In the previous two sessions I and my other colleagues had been asking from the Government about the availability of gas for commercial purposes, but the Government had then told us that they had not yet assessed the quantity of gas that would be available for commercial use and from which date it can be made available. My question was:

"Whether his Ministry's attention

has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Newstime' dated 12th September, 1986 under the caption 'Andhra Pradesh reluctant to use Krishna basin gas'."

Unfortunately, somehow the high placed officials in the ONGC have been giving a wrong impression to the people, and I fear that they are still not supplying the correct information to the Government. While the Government did not give the information in the previous sessions, the ONGC officials have gone on record to say, as was reported in the Newstime:

"About 1.5 lakh cubic metres of natural gas can be produced every day from the four wells we have sunk so far in Razole and Narsapur. And we have in the last eight months tried to get entrepreneurs and the AP Government to set up industries to make use of this valuable fuel, but the response has not been very encouraging."

This gives a very wrong impression to those who go through these press reports. I would like to know from the Government whether they are aware that recently, the APIDC Chairman has conducted a joint meeting comprising both the ONGC representatives and entrepreneurs from the Coastal Andhra near the source and convinced both sides to agree to the suggestion of making both gas and coal prices equivalent. In spite of the fact that the State Government is giving several incentives and concessions to the new entrepreneurs by way of lower rates of electricity, concessions on purchases, etc., they are not coming forward because of this gas price which is fixed at Rs. 900 per 1000 cubic meters. In the present circumstances, to avoid transport of coal in wagons and so on, will the Ministry direct the ONGC to finally agree to fix the price of gas that will be made available, equivalent to that of coal prices, so that the entrepreneurs will come forward?

**SHRI BRAHMA DUTT :** About the report to which attention has been drawn, I would like to say that the report is not based on facts. The Government of Andhra Pradesh is also trying to utilise this gas. We have several meetings with them. About the gas plant which the AP State Electricity Board has proposed, ONGC is in a position to supply gas for 3 megawatt units. The price will be decided by the Government. Provisionally, it is kept at Rs. 900 to Rs. 1000 per 1000 cubic meters, but final adjustments are to be made about this.

**SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :** Sir, he did not reply to my point.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Now, you are not to follow the footsteps of Dagaji.

**SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :** The hon. Minister has not clearly understood the need to make the coal price equivalent to that of gas. Otherwise the entrepreneurs will find it very difficult to utilise the gas.

Secondly, in Kaikaluru well near Vijayawada very good oil was found and the quality of this oil is as good as the oil found in the Ankaleshwar Wells. Will the ONGC spend more money to explore the Kaikaluru area with more speed to derive oil which will to some extent ultimately reduce our importing oil from other countries?

**SHRI BRAHMA DUTT :** We are considering to reduce the prices of natural gas for power plants. As regards oil, our emphasis is more and more on exploration and then exploitation. So, there is an exception. There is the possibility and we are spending money in this regard.

[Translation]

**DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the funds demanded by ONGC last year for exploration and for completing the projects have not been fully utilised by it whereas on the other hand, gas worth crores of rupees had to be burnt. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he is going to take any active step in this direction because on the one hand the funds made available to the Ministry are not being utilised fully and on the other hand, gas worth crores of rupees is burning and going waste? Is his Ministry going to take any steps and if so, the nature thereof?

**MR. SPEAKER :** Let them give money to us and then see how money is spent quickly.

**SHRI BRAHMA DUTT :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, although this question is not related to the main question yet I would submit that gas is, no doubt, burning. One third of the gas is going waste because we do not have the bottling capacity. Phase-III is going to be completed within a period of one year and we are now moving towards Phase-IV. We are also trying that private sector may install bottling plant so that maximum gas is made available. But it is not true that the funds are not being utilised.

[English]

#### Collaboration Agreements for updating Technology

\*314. **SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :** Will he Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of collaboration agreements with foreign firms for up-dating technology signed by India during the last three years: and

(b) the impact of these agreements on product range, quality of product and cost of production?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO):** (a) 2,449 Foreign Collaboration proposals were approved during the last 3 years (1983-85).

(b) These agreements are expected to improve production speedily through greater efficiency and fuller utilisation of existing capabilities, and enhance the quality and reliability of performance and output.

[Translation]

**SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question has not at all been replied to the question is totally different from the reply. He is a new Minister and therefore, I do not want to say much. The question is whether any National Technology Development Plan has been formulated to update the high technology? Secondly, whether you have requisite manpower or not to implement that Plan? My third supplementary is whether you have any data as to which industries have been permitted to enter foreign collaboration and also which type of foreign collaboration has been permitted? In addition to the above, kindly tell us whether indigenous technology was available in regard to those about which figures have been given and whether permission was given because of non-availability of indigenous technology? I