

is in force since 1977. While issuing a licence or a letter of intent we decide the place and tell the industrialist about it. Concessions and facilities are provided for that place only so that the industrialists may be attracted towards the backward areas.

[English]

Allocation of Funds for Seventh Five Year Plan

*736 SHRI G.G. SWELL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether as against the allocation of Rs. 6000 crores in the Sixth Five Year Plan, his Ministry has asked for an allocation of Rs. 20,000 crores in the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the reasons for more than tripling the demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) The Plan Outlay for the Sixth Five Year Plan of the Ministry of Petroleum was originally fixed at Rs. 5228 crores. This was revised to about Rs. 11042 crores during the mid-term appraisal. For the Seventh Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Petroleum has projected an Outlay of about Rs. 34078 crores.

(b) The main reasons for this quantum jump in demand for more allocation in the Seventh Plan are :

(i) extensive geological and geo-physical surveys;

(ii) intensive exploratory drilling for discovering new oil and gas fields;

(iii) drilling a larger number of development wells for increased production;

(iv) to achieve self-sufficiency in refining capacity especially to meet the

demand for middle distillates by expanding the existing refineries and building two new grass-root refineries;

(v) to give greater attention for processing, transportation, marketing etc. of natural gas;

(vi) to initiate schemes connected with bottling and marketing of increased quantities of LPG keeping safety considerations also in view; and

(vii) for setting up of gas-based petrochemicals complex and aromatic recovery facilities.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : The allocation in the Sixth Five Year Plan and the projection for the Seventh Five Year Plan are much larger than in the reports I received. I am grateful to the hon. Minister for bringing it upto date. Now the hon. Minister is speaking of exploratory drilling.

In this connection, I would like to know whether it is a fact that the density of drill of the rigs in the Bombay High Oil field is the thinnest in the world for a given area.

I would like to know the proportion of rigs in a given off-shore area in our Bombay High in relation to other off-shore oil countries like Norway and the United Kingdom.

Elsewhere, the Ministry speaks of an area of 1.72 million sq. KM with hydrocarbon potential. I would like to know broadly where those areas are and whether our Insat-1B which does the aerial photography has revealed any more area of such possibility and what is the addition to this area which the Ministry has mentioned.

Thirdly...

MR. SPEAKER : No more question. I will not allow. Leave it.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : This question relates to the allocation with regard to the Seventh Five Year Plan, *vis-a-vis* the Sixth Five Year Plan. The hon. Member has asked a question with regard to the density of the rigs in the Bombay High as well as with regard to the Insat functioning and helping in the exploration and seismic surveys. I will not be in a position to reply to this question because this requires greater study and, therefore, I would not like to reply to this question.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : I always like this hon. Minister. He has been friendly and very frank but I say that these are elementary things which should have been anticipated and your Ministry should have anticipated.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.G. SWELL : The hon. Minister has been speaking elsewhere of offering a new and more attractive package to foreign companies for exploratory drilling in our off-shore.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : On-shore also.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : O.K. I will add on-shore also. This House knows about this that only the other day that one of the multi-national oil companies, Chevron, had withdrawn from the Saurashtra coast. The hon. Minister must be aware that after China has embarked on the path of liberalisation and modernisation, there is practically a scramble among the multi-national oil companies for a concession in Chinese off-shore.

I would like to know whether the hon. Minister or his Ministry has studied what are the terms that China is offering that are more attractive to these multi-national companies and what are we doing. If you have not done it, I would like to know whether you are going to make a study of this.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : With regard to the question of liberalisation and modernisation, this Ministry is also going in for liberalisation and modernisation. It is for this reason that we are having a new approach, a new thinking, to exploration and drilling. It is with this view that we are thinking of collaborating and giving certain areas to a few of the companies in a few of the countries with a time-bound programme. The hon. Member would be pleased to know that we are negotiating such a deal with the USSR also. We want to give certain areas to the USSR so that they may have the total responsibility for equipment, services and also for exploratory drilling. Of course, the commercial drilling would be by the ONGC. So, we are on this approach because we also think that India requires a flip in this direction, to achieve self-sufficiency, we have to have new approaches in this direction.

So far as Chevron is concerned, Chevron were here and they dug three wells but could not find oil. Therefore, after completion of their contract, they left this country.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : Is this the answer to my question? I appeal to you, Sir, I wanted to know what are the Chinese doing that make their offshore more attractive to the multi-nationals and what are we not doing that they are shying away from us.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : It is a subject of study. We are looking into it and we will try to get the benefit if it is to our advantage.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has made a provision of Rs. 34000 crores in the Seventh Five Year Plan and drilling work has also been undertaken in Rajasthan. I would like to know whether during the Seventh Plan period, Government propose to explore all the possibilities of finding oil in Rajasthan, which is a desert area on the whole and particularly in Churu District?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question asked by the hon. Member does not arise out of the main question. I would like to say on the basis of the information available with me that the work of exploration of oil in Rajasthan is being expedited and that is why besides O.N.G.C., Oil India has also been entrusted with this job and in the Seventh Five Year Plan, in Bikaner, Barmer and Jaisalmer...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Bhilwara ...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Bhilwara and Jaipur are not included in it...(*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : At least Sikar may be included.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Sikar can be considered. I was saying that there was a proposal to expedite this work and large funds had been allocated for it. We hope that after getting the approval of the Planning Commission, this work can be taken up expeditiously. So far as I know, there are no such possibilities in Churu District.

[*English*]

Mini Paper Plants in Gujarat

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*738 **SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :**

SHRI MOHAN BHAI PATEL :

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

(a) the number of mini paper plants set up in the country and the number of such plants set up in Gujarat ;

(b) whether, keeping in view the vast resources, abundance of existing wood and other raw materials in jungles in the Adivasi habitations of Gujarat, Government intend to establish more mini paper plants in Gujarat, particularly in its rural areas ;

(c) whether Gujarat Government have sent to Union Government certain proposals in this respect and if so, the details thereof ;

(d) the action taken by Government thereon ; and

(e) the Government's policy in regard to establishing more mini paper plants in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) 211 mini paper plants each having a capacity upto 10,000 tonnes per annum have been set up in the country, out of which 35 plants are in the State of Gujarat.

(b) The Central Government have no proposal at present to establish any paper plant in the State of Gujarat.

(c) and (d) Recommendations for setting up of various paper projects have been received from the State Government from time to time. Apart from the existing 35 mini paper plants and three medium paper plants in the State of Gujarat, 43 units have been registered with DGTD for manufacture of paper and paper board, which have yet to commence production.

(e) There is no restriction on setting up of paper plants based on non-conventional raw materials.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you are against monopolies, but even then you are monopolising all the questions. What is the matter ?

SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : There are a large number of tribal and backward areas in our country and raw material meant for producing paper is available in abundance in these tribal, backward and hill areas. In view of this, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Government propose to