

reliance in the areas of technology... (*Interruptions*) Why they are restless, I don't know. One difficulty with the people sitting to your left side is that when they are about to be convinced, they disrupt. That is the problem.

MR. SPEAKER : If they get convinced by you, then they will be no longer in the Opposition !

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : The other aspect is that we are freely importing credit type technology although the technology is available in our country. My question is whether any exercise has been made that our R&D efforts will be affected by such importing of credit type projects with the technology which is available in India.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : It has been taken into consideration and a case-by-case study is being done.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : You have stated that in your reply. I want to know whether any exercise has been made.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : In spite of all our efforts of commissioning of on-going projects and also increasing our efficiency, plant load factor. etc., we still find that when there is a shortage we have to import, taking the technology and the equipment into consideration. But at no stage have we ever deviated from the path that our indigenous technology will not be taken into consideration.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH : The Hon. Minister in her reply to a Member from Gujarat said that she had taken a meeting. But that is not enough, I would not like the renewable energy programme specifically cover Gujarat. It is a programme by which even if this country could save 5 per cent in our petroleum imports, it would add and be a great asset, to the national exchequer. But, unfortunately what has happened is that for the renewable programme the budget allocation is less than it should be. What is the Ministry planning to do regarding solar wind and tidal energy, which developing countries specially India has plenty ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : I thank the Hon. Member for this question. The solution for the power problem really lies in the renewable sources of energy ultimately, because it is available in plenty—both solar, and also wind. It is a fact that the allocation for this energy source and its development has been very meagre. It is about Rs. 100 crores. That is because of the general perception that we had up till now about the potential of this source. If the House with its new perception feels that this energy source really can help our people in the rural areas, particularly in the remote areas and the backward areas, I think even now ways and means can be found. Because whatever funds are available for the rural development, ultimately are for this purpose. If this can help rural development, that is what ultimately we want. I need your advice, your backing and the support of the House. I am already taking up this matter with my colleagues in the Finance, Planning and Rural Development Ministry to see how more funds can be made available for this renewable source.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you save us from this. Now every Minister comes to the House and says, "I agree with you provided Planning and Finance help me." What does it imply ? Let the Minister first consult the Planning and Finance before coming to the House. It is a new technique.

MR. SPEAKER : I can only sympathise with you.

Rigs with Oil India Limited

*722. PROF. PARAG CHALIHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of drilling rigs owned and hired by Oil India Limited, year-wise; during the last three years;

(b) the total metreage of drilling, year-wise, during the aforesaid period; and

(c) the average metreage drilled per rig per year during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c). A
statement is given below.

Statement

Year	Total No. of rigs owned and hired	Total Meterage drilled	Average Meterage drilled (per rig per year)
1984-85	8	95864.1	13695
1985-86	9	118836.3	12917
1986-87	12	119786.0	11607

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA : Sir, from the perusal of the statement it will be seen that in 1984-85 the total number of rigs was 8 and the average meterage drilled was 13695. In 1985-86 the number is 9 and the average meterage drilled is 12917. In 1986-87 the total number of rigs was 12 and the average meterage drilled came down to 11607. So, it means the average meterage of drilling has substantially decreased to such an extent that in the course of two years the average meterage has come down by about 2000 meters per rig. It is a colossal loss of public money. Will the Minister kindly tell whether some sort of inquiry has been made particularly in regard to over-drilling in respect of Jorajan W 269; Jorajan W 275 and Jorajan W 309 which have yielded no crude for the last several years? To my mind it is due to over-zealousness on the part of the Oil management to show the country that with the new management things have come up very much in the matter of increase in production of crude. But ultimately it has damaged the wells. Will the Minister kindly look into it and reply?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : We are continuously looking into the performance of the Oil companies. I would like to submit that there are three main reasons for this shortfall. First is when we acquire a new rig it takes lot of time to stabilise it. Secondly there are some problems from below the earth and the third problem is the human problem. In solving that problem I seek

the cooperation of the Hon. Members.
(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN : You are creating the human problem.

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA : I would like to know whether this particular shortfall to the tune of 2000 meterage per rig is due to any human problem? The number of rigs in 1986-87 were 12 and the average came down to 11607. It is certainly not a human problem. It is absolutely due to over-zealousness on the part of the Oil management to show that they are so expert and efficient to increase production two fold.

My second supplementary is that there are many high crude-gas radio wells in Upper Assam According to reservoir engineering advice oil is to be recovered from oil gas bearing wells after long intervals. Some advisers even advised to stop production but Oil India management ignored this expert opinion and produced oil to such a ratio that there were 300 litres of oil with 10 lakh cubic meters of gas. It is something astounding and it amounts to damaging the reservoir for good May I know from the Minister whether in view of these staggering figures he will institute some sort of an inquiry and take remedial measures.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Generally what happens, in the first stage, 25 per cent of the oil is recovered without any effort. Later on, the efforts have to be made by water injection or air injection. But I will

definitely look into the specific information that the Hon'ble Member has given.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : The Minister is well aware that another government organisation, Oil and Natural Gas Commission, is employing many more rigs than Oil India Limited. What kind of rigs are these? Are they jack-ups, are they drill ships, are they semi-submersible? If so, how many of each category? Also, is it true that the number of rigs for given areas in India is the sparsest in the world?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Sir, we are using all types of rigs which the Hon'ble Member has mentioned. I will send the specific information to the Hon'ble Member. Our pattern is the same which is adopted all over the world.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : Is it sparsest in the world for given area? The number of rigs for given area in India is the least in the world?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : We require more rigs. Very right.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, out of the 27 thousand sq. kms. of area of Rajasthan, seismic survey has been conducted in the areas of Jaisalmer, Bikaner, Ganganagar and Nagaur. The then Hon. Minister Shri Nawal Kishore Sharma had also ordered drilling rigs costing Rs. 30 crores. But the rigs were neither purchased nor hired. Thus, the drilling work is going on very slowly and the progress is very slow. Therefore, what steps are being taken by the Hon. Minister in this regard?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : This is not connected with that.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Sir, we have placed two such orders on B.H.E.L., one will be complied with by July 1987 and the other by May 1988. The survey work has been completed and now efforts will be made to send the rigs at the earliest.

[English]

Norms given by M/s. Rheinbraun Consulting of West Germany to Neyveli Lignite Corporation

+

*723. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA
SINHA
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the norms given by M/s. Rheinbraun Consulting of West Germany to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited for selecting suppliers from amongst the tenderers of machines and equipment;

(b) whether the Neyveli Lignite Corporation follows the said norms strictly; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof and in how many cases the advice of M/s. Rheinbraun Consulting had been ignored by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) The norms for selecting suppliers for the specialised Mining Equipment (SME) for Neyveli second Mine Expansion project were decided by NLC in consultation with M/s Rheinbraun Consulting, West Germany. According to these norms, the bidders either by themselves or in valid collaboration with a collaborator must have designed, manufactured, erected, successfully tested and commissioned;

(i) Two Bucket Wheel Excavators of 700 litre and 1400 litre capacity each or of higher capacity;

(ii) Mobile Transfer Conveyors, of capacity not less than 4000 T/Hour of transporting hard/abrasive/sticky overburden similar to that encountered at Neyveli;

(iii) Spreaders of capacity of handling not less than 10,000 T/Hour of