

I have not been able to give the break-up on account of the strikes, etc. But the total loss on account of power cuts, strikes, shortage of feedstock, is 7 lakh tonnes.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : मंत्री महोदय ने खाद के उत्पादन में कमी का कारण बिजली की कमी और हड़ताल वगैरह बताया है। लेकिन वह एक बात बताना भूल गये कि सरकार के पास बुद्धि की भी कमी है। अगर उसके पास बुद्धि की कमी न होती, तो उसने सिन्दरी के कोल-बेस्ड खाद कारखाने को स्फ्रेप के नाम पर बेच कर वहाँ पर आयल-बेस्ड कारखाना बनाने का फ़ैसला न किया होता एक तरफ़ देश में खाद की मांग बढ़ती जा रही है और दूसरी तरफ़ सरकार उतना उत्पादन नहीं कर पा रही है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि घनबाद में जो आयल-बेस्ड खाद कारखाना बनने वाला है, वह कब तक तैयार हो जायेगा और सरकार बरौनी के खाद कारखाने को कब तक ठीक से चलाने का विचार कर रही है, ताकि देश में खाद की कमी पूरी हो। बिहार में तो खाद के लिए हाहाकार मचा हुआ है। बिहार की ओर से साठ हजार टन खाद की मांग की गई है, जिसको सरकार नहीं दे रही है। इसकी व्यवस्था कैसे की जायेगी ?

श्री प्रकाश चन्द्र सेठी सरकार के पास बुद्धि की कमी नहीं है, बल्कि हम उमे एक्सपोर्ट कर रहे हैं और आप भी हमसे ले रहे हैं।

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Export figures are official secrets!

श्री प्रकाश चन्द्र सेठी : जहाँ तक सिन्दरी कारखाने का सवाल है, उसका राशनलाइजेशन और माइनाइजेशन करना जरूरी था और वह कर दिया है। जो बेचा है, वह करीब-करीब स्क्रैप था, जो चार करोड़ और कुछ लाख रुपये में बेचा है। माननीय सदस्य ने भी पढ़ा होगा

कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने उस सेल को अपहोल्ड किया है। जहाँ तक बरौनी के कारखाने को चालू करने का प्रश्न है, माननीय सदस्य जानते हैं कि वह आसाम एजिटेशन की वजह से बंद है। लेकिन फिर भी जैसे ही इस प्रकार की सुविधा होगी कि वहाँ पर रा मैटीरियल पहुंच सके, हम उसको जल्दी प्रारंभ करने का प्रयत्न करेंगे।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Next question.

श्री राम नगीना मिश्र : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे भी एक सवाल पूछने दीजिए। यह मेरे साथ अन्याय हो रहा है।

Loss in Production of Crude Oil in Terms of Quantity and Value due to Assam Agitation

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*23. SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV:

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss in the production of crude oil in terms of quantity and value due to the closure of the refineries because of Assam agitation;

(b) the quantity and value in foreign exchange of the crude oil which Government had to import as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to accelerate oil exploration in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Estimated loss in crude production due to Assam agitation is as below:

	Quantity	Approx. Value of Product losses upto end of Sept. 80.
Oi & Natural/Ga. Commission up to 18th October, 1980	1.16 M.T.	} Rs.626 crores.
Oil India Limited up to 30th September, 1980.	1.55 M.T.	

(b) It would be difficult to quantify the additional imports attributable only to Assam agitation. Government did not have to import additional crude oil on account of Assam agitation. However, additional products had to be imported.

(c) Annual and Five Year Plans have been made to explore for oil in the perspective areas and to optimise the production from the known fields. Efforts are being made to take up exploration in new areas by Oil & Natural Gas Commission and Oil India Limited (India). To augment the efforts outside parties have been invited to indicate their interest in exploring for oil in the country.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: The country has suffered a very major loss because of the Assam agitation and, besides, it is said that Rs. 626 crores have been lost. There is a serious danger to 750 kilometres of pipeline because of the oil blockade and it is said that unless the crude oil blockade is lifted and the pipe starts functioning, there is a danger that 65000 tons of crude oil would be blocked there, and the danger will be for the total pipeline. Before the winter session started it was expected that necessary steps would be taken to see that the pipe starts functioning; otherwise it will have to be opened again, if it is buried underground, and that will affect the transport of crude oil from Assam even after the situation is normal—which will take several months,—and that will add to the total loss that we have suffered up to this time. So, may I know whether the Minister, keeping this situation in mind, has talked to the Oil & Natural Gas Commission employees and Oil India employees and persuaded them that they should at least start functioning, keeping this fact in mind? If any initiative has been taken by the Minister, what is the latest position in that regard?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: It is true that if the Assam pipeline were not clean-

ed, there was danger of its being spoiled and, keeping this danger in view, Government took a decision to flush out 50,000 tons of crude oil blocked in this pipeline. In the initial stage, the Oil Corporation or the Indian Oil people and the ONGC people both cooperated but later on, though some of the officers are working, most of them went on strike. But, fortunately, with the help of the military authorities, who have been requisitioned for this work, the pipeline is being cleaned and the oil has reached Barauni. We hope that with this limited operation in which they are engaged, we will be able to clean up the line in another eight days.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: You cannot depend all the time on military authorities. I asked why these employees have gone on strike and whether the Minister has taken the initiative to talk to their union leaders that they should at least start functioning.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: We have not been able to contact the Union leaders of both these organisations because the strike situation depends on the over-all situation of Assam. Our Managing Directors are there and they are trying their best to persuade them to come back to work. But, personally, I have not been able to go and I do not know whether the Home Minister would think it advisable to send the Oil Minister there at this juncture.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: I will now put my second question.

This answer says—it is a very general type of answer—that Annual Plans have been made and Five Year Plans have been made to do exploration in perspective areas and also to optimise production from the known fields. Really speaking, there is an increasing demand for petroleum and petroleum products. If we see last year's figure, our consumption was 30 million tons but now it is expected, in 1985-86, it will go up to 57 million tons; so it will be almost double of what we

have been consuming in the last few years. Our consumption is going to be almost double, and the country cannot bear the strain of import of petroleum and petroleum products. Also we are importing for more than Rs. 5,000 crores per year. Keeping this in view, will the hon. Minister be able to tell this House as to what are the definite Annual Plans and what are the programmes for the Five-Year Plan? Will he also be able to tell this House, by 1985-86, by the end of the Sixth Plan and also in the next ten years, how much oil we will be able to produce within our country and whether there is any idea as to by which time India will become self-sufficient in oil, whether the possibilities have been explored? He also says that certain parties have been invited...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We have only Five-Year Plans. But you are asking for ten years!

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: The whole world is going for plans till the end of the Century. 'Perspective Plans' means not Annual Plans or Five-Year Plans, but plans for 15 years, 25 years, and so on. The whole world is doing like that. I would like to know which are those parties which have been invited to show their interest, which are those countries, and what is the response from those countries and what are the possibilities.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: We have drawn up a Five-Year Plan both for the Oil India and for the ONGC. I am happy to say that the Planning Commission has agreed to a sum of about Rs. 400 crores for the Oil India for the next five years. Similarly, for the ONGC, we are having a discussion with the Planning Commission and the proposed amount for the ONGC is about Rs. 2,200 crores for off-shore and about Rs. 1300 crores for the on-shore operation—exploration, drilling and oil-finding. Both ONGC and Oil India have got substantial programmes on their hand. Oil India has been allotted certain areas like Assam, Arunachal Pradesh,

the Mahanadhi basin and certain other parts of the country and the off-shore areas are being worked out by the ONGC. We are quite hopeful that they will be able to find more oil, produce more oil. But oil is found only whenever it is actually struck. Therefore, it is very difficult to say when we will be self-sufficient in oil. That is why, keeping in view the urgency of the problem and the heavy imports, we invited pre-qualifying bids of the various parties for the exploration and production programme of oil, and 67 parties responded to it—almost from all the major oil-producing countries like the United States, France, Japan, Britain and other major countries.—out of which about 34 parties have been chalk-listed on the basis of the qualifications. I have asked the Ministry and the Committee to complete the negotiations with these parties by March, so that we may be in a position to give them work in the 28 Blocks which we have selected somewhere by September-October, 1981.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: We are facing the oil crisis and the indications are that we have to face this crisis in future too. In this respect I would like to know from the hon. Minister (a) what measures have been taken to effect economy in the consumption of oil. (b) I want to know whether any long-term energy policy has been formulated—by energy policy, I mean, an integrated energy policy in which the role of the electricity, the role of coal and the role of oil is separately assigned. We find that due to failure on the electricity front and in movement of coal, the pressure on oil is more.

So, I want to know whether the hon. Minister will be pleased to consider formulation of any long-term energy policy in future too to meet the oil crisis?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: Sir, the formulation of an energy policy is a much bigger perspective. It all depends on various factors—not only on this min-

istry. As far as we are concerned, we are trying to preserve the oil which is a very precious and costly commodity by various methods. For example, there is a proposal to mix petrol with alcohol. Similarly we are trying to switch over from furnace oil based industries to coal and furnace oil based power plants to coal based ones. It is true that if other means are amply available within the areas, then pressure for diesel from transport sector which consumes sixty per cent of the diesel out of the total requirements of the country will definitely go down. All these measures are being taken in coordination with the other ministries. But, I am afraid, that on a long-term basis, as far as energy policy is concerned, we have no such policy. This is a problem for all the countries—not only of India. So, no definite energy policy has yet been evolved.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEY: I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether efforts are being made in plan period for exploration of oil in Assam, Cachar has potentiality of petrol. So also in Tripura. There oil wells were started seven years back. But the rig in Chargola is not working there for the last two years. In spite of the fact that his predecessor had assured in his letter to me that a new rig would be sent there within a short time, it has not yet reached there. Within a short short time means how long will it take for him to send the new rig there so as to put it into operation so that the oil wells may start functioning in Cachar and Tripura areas. There are no bandhs and strikes there. You know that we are within the boundary of Assam. My question is: whether he is aware of the fact that the employees working in Noonmati, in Duliajan and in the Fertilisers Corporation of India who are on strike there are being paid their daily wages from various outside sources. Which are the sources? And what steps are the government taking to stop those sources because those people are indulging in anti-national

activities; some of the national parties are also supporting them. (*Interruptions*) In order to stop that, what steps is the ministry going to take? Instead of our going with a begging bowl to Iran and Iraq why not take oil from Assam itself. I would like to know this from the hon. Minister.

SHRI P. C. SETHI: Sir, as far as exploration of oil in Cachar and Tripura is concerned, I am happy to say that as far as Tripura is concerned, we are receiving the Russian Team and in coordination with them, we are going to start the drilling of wells in Tripura.

As far as Cachar is concerned, I am not aware of the new rig to be sent there. But, I can assure the hon. Member—a considerable time has passed between his letter and the actual sending of the rig—that I would look into this problem. As far as the striking officers are concerned, we have made it clear both to the Oil India employees as well as the ONGC employees that for the days they are absent, they will not be paid. Now, if they are getting their pay and allowances from other sources, I think, the question should be addressed to some other quarter.

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Power Supplied by DVC to Steel Plants

*24. **SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the month-wise power supplied by DVC to Steel Plants in last 12 months; and

(b) the gap between the demands of each Steel Plant and the actual supply by the DVC?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House.