

Daily Production in Bombay High

*37. SHRI CHRISHTOPHER EKKA:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM,
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be
pleased to state:

(a) the current average daily pro-
duction rate of oil in the Bombay
High;

(b) whether it is a fact that the
ONGC has recently commissioned a
central process platform in the nor-
thern part of Bombay High field;

(c) whether ONGC has proposed to
instal some oil production and process
platforms in the next few years;

(d) their total number; and

(e) what will be the average daily
production of oil after installation of
the new platforms in the next few
years?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM,
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) The
average daily production in July was
137,566 barrels per day.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). It is proposed to in-
stal thirrtten platform by the end of
May 1982.

A plan is being drawn up to install
another sixteen platforms by May
1983. The requirement of platforms
for subsequent years is under finalisa-
tion. After the installation of all the
necessary platforms in the Bombay
High area the field is expected to pro-
duce at a rate of 340,000 BOPD in
1982-83.

**Crisis in Alcohol Based Industries in
West Bengal**

*38. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

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

(a) whether Government are aware
that the alcohol based industries in
West Bengal are in dire crisis because
of shortage of alcohol;

(b) if so, whether it is because of
the Maharashtra, Bihar and Uttar Pra-
desh State Governments refusal to
supply alcohol allotted to the State by
the Central Molasses Board;

(c) if so, the details and what action
has been taken by the Union Govern-
ment thereon;

(d) whether the West Bengal State
Government has requested the Centre
to import some industrial alcohol in
view of the situation; and

(e) if so, the details and Govern-
ment's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM,
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A Statement is placed
on the table of the house.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) In order to improve the avail-
ability of alcohol, it has been decided
to permit actual industrial users to
import alcohol either directly or in-
directly through their associations, on
the basis of licences to be issued on a
case to case basis.

Statement

The current alcohol year 1980-81
(December-November) is a difficult
year with supply of alcohol and
molasses falling considerably short of
the demand. The Central Molasses
Board had estimated that in the cur-
rent alcohol year 1980-81 the availa-
bility of alcohol is likely to be 4200