

**SHRI P. GANGADEB:** I would further like to know whether the orders placed by the ONGC on the USSR for supply of some sophisticated equipment for working out these Assam oil wells have been implemented. What is the present position of the works that are going ahead?

**SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA:** We have placed an order and an agreement has been reached for the supply of rigs from USSR so that we might increase the tempo of work in Assam. We hope that the rigs will arrive very shortly.

**SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATTIA:** The hon. Minister in his statement has said that there is an expansion programme upto 1.2 million tonnes for 1975-76 and to the extent of 2.25 million tonnes in 1977-78. May I know from the hon. Minister if the necessary funds are available to finance these expansions?

**SHRI K. D. MALAVIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR:** The hon. Minister in reply to part (c) and (d) said, "Yes, Sir". May I know whether he is in a position to say, at this stage, whether both the programmes, mentioned in part (c) and (d) are meeting with any reasonable success and, if so, what are those areas in which success has been obtained and whether the explorations are taking place, besides Assam, in Gujarat and other parts of the country?

**SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA:** The success depends upon our ability to stick to the programme. We try to stick to the programme. Sometimes, we fail and we are not able to stick to the programme because of either logistic reasons or rigs not being available to us or some particular oil well is giving trouble and we have got to slow it down. We are trying to do our best. So far as Gujarat is con-

cerned, Gujarat programme of exploration, according to my personal view, is going on quite well.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS** rose—

**MR. SPEAKER:** The Question is about Assam.

**SHRI TARUN GOGOI:** I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether, in view of the additional availability of crude oil in Assam, provision has been made to refine it within that State by setting up another refinery or by expanding the existing refinery at Gauhati or the proposed refinery at Bongaigaon.

**SHRI K. D. MALAVIA:** It has already been answered by me. We are trying our best to examine the possibility of expansion of the two refineries and if it is possible, we shall certainly do it.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Improvement in Coal Supply to Railways

\*101. **SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been no improvement in coal supply position to Railways during the last few years; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the demand and supply position during the last three years?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI):** (a) and (b). With the increase in production and offer of steam coal, the supplies of coal for Railways have picked up to meet the requirements of Railways.

The demand and supply during the last three years is given below:—

Year	Anticipated requirements (in Million tonnes)	Supplies (in Million tonnes)
1972-73 . . .	14.8	14.8
1973-74 . . .	14.6	13.4
1974-75 (Upto Jan. 75)	12.0	11.8

#### Contract with Saudi Arabia for Crude Oil

\*102. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any possibility of entering into a long term contract by Saudi Arabia with India for the supply of 4 to 5 million tonnes of crude every year; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) and (b). There is no such proposal at present.

#### Kerosene Oil Quota for States

\*105. SHRI S. N SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the Kerosene oil quota of States;

(b) if so, the quantity to be increased for each State;

(c) whether any special steps have been taken for the supply of Kerosene oil to the rural areas and hilly areas; and

(d) if so, the main features of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) The cut on kerosene was relaxed in November 1974 and some increases made in the State quotas. This level of allocation is proposed to be maintained for the present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Arrangements for distribution of Kerosene Oil in the rural and hilly areas are made by the State Governments. Necessity for making adequate arrangements for this purpose has been stressed and the State Governments requested to give special attention to it.

#### Recommendations of Hathi Committee on Drug Industry

\*106. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:  
SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

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

(a) whether Hathi Committee Report has been received by Government;

(b) whether Government are considering a new comprehensive policy on drugs in the light of the Report;

(c) whether brand names of select drugs are to be abolished;

(d) whether Government are considering to overhaul the drug manufacturing sector; and

(e) if so, the broad outlines thereof?