

Providing Additional Crude to Burmah Shell

*216. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state.

(a) whether after a lapse of over six months, his Ministry has started providing additional crude to Burmah-Shell, and

(b) if so, the broad outlines regarding the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA) (a) and (b) Burmah-Shell are refining their own crude oil imported from their own sources, as also additional crude oil of IOC on payment of a processing fee basis

The quantity of crude oil processed by Burmah-Shell from their own sources depends upon the foreign exchange released to them from time to time after meeting the requirement of the public sector refineries.

IOC's crude oil is given to Burmah Shell for refining on a processing fee basis in accordance with the commercial judgement of I.O.C. keeping in view the product requirements in different parts of the country and after meeting the requirements of the public sector refineries.

Setting up of Ammonia and Urea Plants in Sindri Fertilizer Plant

*217. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) when the new Ammonia plant and Urea plant are likely to be set up as a part of modernising and expansion of the Sindri Fertiliser Plant; and

(b) the additional production likely to be achieved and foreign exchange saving as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). The Sindri Modernisation programme, which is in the nature of an expansion envisages an additional production of 1,28,500 tonnes of Nitrogen per annum. The project is expected to be completed in early 1978. At current international prices of fuel oil and urea, the additional production of 1,28,500 tonnes of N would result in a foreign exchange saving of about Rs. 50-55 crores annually.

Expenditure on Oil Exploration by O. & N.G.C.

*218. SHRI P. GANGADEB:
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL
BHATIA:

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

(a) whether O & N.G.C proposes to spend Rs. 255 crores on oil exploration work; and

(b) if so, what will be the percentage of increase in expenditure as compared to the last year's expenditure; and

(c) broad features of the proposed expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) to (c). Against an estimated expenditure of Rs. 184.84 crores for 1974-75, the ONGC plans to spend Rs. 255.36 crores in 1975-76, an increase of about 38 per cent for exploration/production of crude oil and natural gas. This takes into account the Commission's onshore/offshore operations including its overseas operations. It also includes a proposed outlay of Rs. 2.90 crores for research.