

in cylinders LPG extracted out of natural gas or produced during refining of crude oil is bottled in cylinders. No LPG is being flared. However, some natural gas is being flared primarily due to inadequate compression facilities, inadequate upliftment and downstream use.

(b) and (c) : Necessary facilities to compress natural gas are being installed. The quantity of gas flared in the period April-Dec. 1984 was 2173 million cubic metres.

There is no fixed sale price of natural gas. The national value of this gas computed at the rate of Rs. 100 per thousand cubic metres, the lowest rate charged within the country, is Rs. 21.73 crores.

Production of Potassium Penicillin-G

4012. SHRI RAM DHAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the anticipated and actual production of Potassium Penicillin-G in India, manufacturer-wise, during the last three years as also the installed capacity of each of these manufacturers ;

(b) the estimated demand of Potassium Penicillin-G by the end of the Sixth Five Year Plan and the projected demand for the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) the steps taken to augment the indigenous production to meet the total requirement of the country from the indigenous sources ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : (a) No Separate data is available for Potassium Penicillin-G. Licensed capacities and production of bulk penicillin during the last three years are as under :

Year	Production
<i>Production</i>	
1982-83	358.37 MMU
1983-84	316.74 MMU
1984-85	390.00 MMU (estimated)
<i>Licensed capacity</i>	
HAL	160.00 MMU
IDPL	230.00 MMU
Standard Pharma	147.00 MMU
Alembic Chemicals	100.00 MMU

(b) Estimated demand of Penicillin for the year 1984-85 was of the order of 1150 MMU.

Due to inadequate production of 6 APA, demand of penicillin did not pick up as anticipated. Requirement was primarily met by indigenous production. Demand estimates for the terminal years of the Seventh Five Year Plan i.e. 1989-90 has been estimated to be 2470 MMU.

(c) Efforts are being taken to increase the production of penicillin in public sector units by improvement of technology.

Oil Exploration by O.N.G.C. and O.I.L. in Bay of Bengal and Bengal Basin

4013. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the oil exploration programme by oil and Natural Gas Commission and Oil India in Bay of Bengal and the Bengal basin in the next five years ;

(b) the hydro carbon prospects in Bay of Bengal ; and

(c) what has so far been done in connection with oil exploration in Bay of Bengal and Bengal basin ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):

(a) The details in this regard would be

available only after the finalisation of the Seventh Plan.

(b) Based on the available data, the Bay of Bengal area is considered to be prospective for hydrocarbons.

(c) Apart from surveys, the number of wells drilled in the area is as follows :—

	No. of wells completed	No. of wells under drilling
<i>Bengal Basin :</i>		
(i) Onshore	21	3
(ii) Offshore	2	—
<i>Bay of Bengal :</i>		
(i) Mahanandi Offshore	7	1
(ii) Andaman Offshore	4	1
(iii) Krishna Godavari Offshore	26	—
(iv) Cauveri Offshore	18	—

New Telephone Connections from Janpath Telephone Exchange

4014. DR. C. S. VERMA : Will the minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3326 on 14th August, 1984 regarding new telephone connections from Janpath Telephone Exchange and state :

(a) whether the telephone authorities have started issuing letters for fresh allotment of telephone connections to the persons who are in the waiting list in General Category ; and

(b) if so, when the persons in the waiting list in general category upto December, 1982 are likely to be issued letters of allotment of fresh telephone connections ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Allotment letters are being issued by the Delhi Telephones authorities to applicants on waiting list who had registered upto 27.4.82 under 'Non-OYT-General' Category. Applicants on waiting list who had registered upto December, 1982 are likely to be issued allotment letters during the next Six months.

[*Translation*]

Nomination for Khadi Gramodyog Commission

4015. SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :