

Needle Coke

Since the Technology for production of needle coke is closely guarded, the Technology is being developed through in-house R&D efforts.

N-Paraffin Distillation Facility

This project is expected to be completed by January, 2001.

(e) The following actions have also been initiated to make the refinery economically viable in the global competitive environment:—

- (i) Yield energy optimisation revamp of Crude Distillation unit.
- (ii) Yield energy optimisation revamp of Delayed Coking unit.
- (iii) Facilities for production of unleaded Ms (ISOSIV) by separating normal paraffins from naphtha.
- (iv) Hydrotreatment facilities for HSD components.
- (v) INDMAX project for conversion of Coker Fuel Oil to LPG and MS/HSD components.

Setting up of oil refinery in Orissa

104. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have abandoned the project to set up oil refinery in Orissa; and

(b) the details of progress made to set up oil Refinery in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNU-SWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The land acquisition by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOC) who are setting up the refinery is in progress. Project Management

[24 February, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

Consultant and all the Licensors have been appointed by IOC. Basic Engineering Design for the refinery units & related infrastructure and selection of contractors for various site preparation jobs is in progress.

LPG connections in the Country

105. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of LPG connection given in every State during 1999;
- (b) the target fixed for providing LPG connection in every State by the end of December, 2000;
- (c) the year in which LPG connection would be given to each applicant on demand; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) The total number of LPG connections released by PSU Oil Marketing Companies during the year 1999 is 86,85,290. The State-wise breakup is given in the statement. (*See below*).

(b) to (d) LPG connections are released in a phased manner throughout the country depending upon the LPG availability, waiting list, slack available with the distributors and their viability. However, the Govt. has a plan to release 1 crore LPG connections during the year 2000 to clear all waiting list registered with the distributors of PSU Oil Companies as on 1-12-1999.