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19	Kharbanda Paper	More than 7 Years	Ballarpur Sunshine/ 3 Acs Copier paper	8 brand & size	2

NOTE (1) Figures for previous two years viz., 1996-97 and 1997-98 are not readily available in Kendriya Bhar.dar

(2) As the rates of above items Keep changing from time to time it is not practicable to indicate their rates.

Proposal to Break Links with SCI

364. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC propose to break its links with Shipping Corporation of India and other shipping companies over Rs. 50 crores payments being demanded from the oil major for providing offshore service vessels;

(b) if so, the details of outstanding amounts demanded by each of the Shipping Company; and

(c) the corrective measures taken by Government to pay the outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) ONGC has no proposal to break its links with Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) or any other shipping company because of any monetary disputes.

(c) An Inter-Ministerial High Level Working Group has been set up on 9.8.99 to consider and make suitable recommendations for settlement of outstanding issues between ONGC and Shipping Companies, viz., determination of compensation in lieu of capital recovery factor beyond 12 years period for each OSVs, fixation of pre-commissioning expenses of SCI vessels, payment of interest and also certain issues requiring interpretation of some of the recommendations of an earlier Committee. Further action will be taken based on the recommendations of this Working Group.

LNG Purchase Contract

365. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any "take or pay" clause in the LNG purchase contract between the Qatar based Ras gas and petronet LNG Ltd.; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The "take or pay" clause is a standard provision in the LNG supply contracts. As per the Sale Purchase Agreement (SPA) signed between Petronet LNG Ltd. and M/s Ras Gas of Qatar, Petronet LNG Ltd. will have to pay at the average of the Contract Sale Price applicable during the relevant year for the difference between the Adjusted Annual Contract Quantity of LNG and the Actual Quantity of LNG drawn by Petronet LNG Ltd., for relevant period. However, quantity paid for and not drawn during the particular period, can be subsequently taken by Petronet LNG Ltd. under remaining Make-up Period of the contract.

Performance of PSUs

366. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) how many PSUs under his Ministry are running into losses for the last 3 years indicating the details of profit/loss, year-wise and undertaking-wise;
- (b) what steps Government have taken so far to minimise the losses thereof; and
- (c) whether Government propose to fill up all the vacant posts of Manager, Director, Chairman in such PSUs which are lying vacant for the last 2 years so as to strengthen working of such PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) There is no PSU under the control of this Ministry which have been making loss for the last three years. However, Biecco Lawrie Limited incurred a net loss of Rs. 269.34 lakhs and Rs. 488.88 lakhs during the Financial years 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively because of considering the extraordinary expenditure, i.e. Deferred Revenue Expenditure, Provision for Gratuity (erstwhile accounted for cash basis) and Provision for Leave Encashment etc. of Rs. 303.41 lakhs and Rs. 641.04 lakhs respectively in respect of these financial years. The Company made a net profit of Rs. 44.84 lakhs during the financial year 1998-99. The Government has also given grants of Rs. 50.00 lakhs in 1997-98, Rs. 34.00 lakhs in 1998-99 and Rs. 50.00 lakhs in 1999-2000 from National Renewal Fund to implement Voluntary Retirement Scheme by Biecco Lawrie to rationalize manpower in the company.

- (c) No such post is lying vacant in the company.

PDS Kerosene in Haryana

367. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.