

the Refineres in the North East and the balance from other Refineres.

(c) Reliance Assam Petrochemical Ltd. (RAPL) who are implementing the Assam Gas Cracker Project have indicated that the project could be commissioned in 44 months from the date of signing of the Gas Supply Agreement and handing over of entire land required for the project.

महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात में तेल और गैस भंडार

2753. श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव: क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात के उन स्थानों का ब्यौरा क्या है, जहाँ अब तक गैस और तेल भंडारों का पता चला है;

(ख) इन क्षेत्रों में गैस और तेल का क्षेत्रवार उत्पादन कितना-कितना है;

(ग) क्या सरकार का विचार इन राज्यों में किसी पेट्रोलियम/गैस आधारित उद्योग अथवा पेट्रोलियम उप-उत्पाद आधारित गैस उद्योग स्थापित करने का है; और

(घ) यदि हां, त तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार): (क) आज की तारीख तक महाराष्ट्र राज्य में किसी तेल/गैस क्षेत्र या भंडार का पता नहीं चला है। गुजरात राज्य में महेसाना, अहमदाबाद, खम्बात तथा अंकलेश्वर परियोजना क्षेत्रों में तेल तथा गैस वाली 85 संरचनाओं का पता चला है।

(ख) वर्ष 1997-98 के लिये गुजरात राज्य में ओ एन जी सी क्षेत्रों तथा निजी कंपनियों द्वारा प्रचालित क्षेत्रों से तेल और गैस का परियोजना क्षेत्र वार उत्पादन निम्नवत् है:—

ओ एन जी सी

क्षेत्र	1997-98
(क) अहमदाबाद	
तेल (मि०मी०ट०)	1.466
गैस (एमएमएससीएमडी)	1.687

क्षेत्र	1997-98
(ख) महेसाना	
तेल (मि०मी०ट०)	1.952
गैस (एमएमएससीएमडी)	0.507
(ग) अंकलेश्वर	
तेल (मि०मी०ट०)	2.478
गैस (एमएमएससीएमडी)	6.334
(घ) खम्बात	
तेल (मि०मी०ट०)	0.055
गैस (एमएमएससीएमडी)	0.006
निजी कंपनियों के तहत छोटे आकार के क्षेत्र	
तेल (मि०मी०ट०)	0.028
गैस (एमएमएससीएमडी)	0.167
योग	
तेल (मि०मी०ट०)	5.979
गैस (एमएमएससीएमडी)	8.701

(ग) और (घ) जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन के पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Closure of Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited in Chennai and Cochin

2754. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited had decided to close down the Freight Container Division in Chennai and Cochin;

(b) whether the company is neither getting support nor orders even from their contemporaries under the administrative jurisdiction in different ministries;

(c) whether Government are not appearing to be integrated to safeguard the interest of the company; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Freight Containers of Balmer Lawrie & Co. Limited are primarily exported. However, there is scope for Railways, CONCOR, Defence, Shipping Corporation of India etc., to buy this product from Balmer Lawrie & Co. Limited, apart from its use in intermodal Road transportation in the Private Sector.

(c) and (d) Balmer Lawrie has taken up its problems and demands with concerned Ministries/Agencies. This Ministry has extended necessary support to Balmer Lawrie in tackling its problems.

New Exploration Licensing Policy

2755. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether bids have been invited under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP); if so, the salient features of bid evaluation criteria fixed for the purpose; and

(b) what have been the response to the bid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Waiting List of LPG Connections

2756. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons district-wise in all State and Union Territories waiting for LPG connections as on 15th December, 1998;

(b) whether Government propose to take some measures ensuring release of

LPG connections to consumers on demand against normal terms of payment;

(c) whether Government propose to reduce the charges to get LPG connections under 'Tatkal Schemes' to clear the heavy waiting position for LPG connections;

(d) whether the steps as in (c) will save the consumers from exploitation being creating by vested people; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The total number of persons in all States and Union Territories waiting for LPG connections as on 1.10.98 was about 137.5 lakhs. New 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. The Government has approved release of 35 lakhs new LPG connections in the country by PSU Oil Cos. during 1998-99. Plans have been drawn to enrol additional new LPG customers in the future years in the country by augmenting LPG availability.

(c) No, Sir. The Non refundable lumpsum amount was reduced from Rs. 5000/- to Rs. 4000/- only some time back.

(d) and (e) The target for releases under Tatkal Scheme is 10% of annual enrolment target. This scheme only helps those needy persons wanting to avail LPG connection without any waiting.

Commission of RPO Dealers

2757. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 4094, answered on 23rd July, 1998 and state: