

(b) what are the sites where the deposits of crude oil have already been found;

(c) what plan is being made to exploit such deposits of oil;

(d) what are the financial estimates required for exploiting this oil; and

(c) by when the work would begin?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Surveys are presently continuing in the sedimentary basins of Cambay, Upper-Assam, Assam-Arakan Fold Belt, Krishna-Godavari, Cauvery, Rajasthan, Bengal, Himalayan Foothills & Ganga Valley in the onland and Western and Eastern Offshore areas.

(b) Hydrocarbons have already been discovered in the sedimentary basins of Cambay, Upper-Assam, Assam-Arakan Fold Belt, Rajasthan, Krishna Godavari, Cauvery and Western and Eastern Offshore areas.

(c) With a view to increase oil production ONGC Ltd. and OIL have made extensive programmes for development of these fields. To further supplement the efforts of ONGC Ltd. and OIL, the Govt. of India have invited bid offers from private and foreign companies for development of 73 small and medium sized fields in the first and second rounds.

(d) For exploitation of oil and gas fields ONGC Ltd. and OIL have proposed a total outlay of Rs. 13,535.62 crores for the remaining period of VIII Plan (1994-95 to 1996-97).

(e) Both exploration and exploitation for hydrocarbons are continuing.

Establishment of a National Grid for Distribution of Natural Gas

2993. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would be agreeable to consider the establishment of a national grid for the distribution of natural gas;

(b) whether pipelines to the southern and eastern regions are proposed to be laid as an integral element of such a national grid; and

(c) whether it is proposed to enforce, as a matter of principle, a uniform price for natural gas all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) At present, there is no proposal for establishing a National Grid. However, the concept of laying a natural gas pipeline to the Southern States from the West Coast has been accepted in principle.

(c) uniform landfall price of gas has been fixed at present all over the country except for the North Eastern States where a concessional price has been allowed in order to encourage the utilisation of gas in the North-East.

Proposal for production of Linear Alkyl Benzene in Haldia Oil Refinery

2994. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for production of value added product like Linear Alkyl Benzene (LAB) in Haldia Oil Refinery; if so, what is the potential for making this product at Haldia;

(b) whether any cost benefit analysis has been made; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Micro Crystalline Wax is a bye-product at Haldia Oil Refinery; if so, whether this is being commercially marketed; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether there is any proposal of setting up a fluidised Catalyst Cracking Unit; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Haldia being a lube oil refinery, utilises major quantity of vacuum distillates for production of lube oil base stock and thus feedstock for FCC Unit is not available.

Survey for Doubling of Dound-Wadi Railway Section

2995. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A.
PARMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the engineering cum-traffic survey for additional line capacity works including doubling of Dound-Wadi Section was carried out by

SC Railway and its report was submitted to the Railway Board in 1980;

(b) if so, the phases of doubling work proposed and other main features of the report, including cost of each item;

(c) whether part of Dound-Solapur-Wadi Section, namely the Sahabad-Gulbarga section which was doubled in 1969 in phases, has been put into operation and is operative to over-Saturation point; and

(d) whether in view of the high passenger and goods traffic potential of the Dound Wadi Section Government propose to undertake doubling of this part according high priority thereto; if so, the details of the schedule contemplated therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) Phase-I

Section	Length	Cost of the phase
1. Daund-Bhigvan	27.590	
2. Pophlaj-Jcur	8.660	
3. Pakni-Hotagi	31.090	Rs. 30,74,42,715/-
4. Baroti-Killali	23.500	
5. Gulbarga-Shahabad	26.450	
(ii) Phase-II		
1. Bhigvan-Pophlaj	37.26	
2. Jeur-Kurduwadi	34.34	Rs. 19,63,28,324/-
3. Hotgi-Boroti	36.69	
(iii) Phase-III		
1. Kurduwadi-Paki	62.42	
2. Kulali-Culbarga	40.04	Rs. 18,96,99,079/-

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Some of the traffic on this line is expected to be diverted on the alternative routes resulting from Gauge conversion

works in this area. Doubling will be considered if found justified, after Gauge conversion in the areas gets completed and the traffic pattern stabilises.