

(ख) 1-4-1989 को रा.स्वा.न में 123 एल पी जो वितरण केंद्र और 833 बुंदरा वित्तो केंद्र काम कर रहे थे। रा.स्वा.न में कार्य कर रहे सभी उपयुक्त वितरण/डो.रों के संबंध में ब्योरा एकत्र करने में लगने वाले प्रयास बांझित उद्देश्य की पूर्ति के अतुल्य नहीं होंगे।

Import of LPG

604. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the quantum of LPG imported by India during 1988-89 and the amount of foreign exchange involved; and

(b) whether any action plan has been chalked out for attaining self-sufficiency in LPG production and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) A quantity of 240 thousand tonnes of LPG valued at Rupees 69.17 crores was imported during the year 1988-89.

(b) In order to increase the production of LPG and other petroleum products, the refining capacity in the country is proposed to be augmented in addition to the establishment of an LPG recovery plant at Bijaipur.

ONGC Oil Output Plan

605. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Disruption of out-

put plan costs ONGC \$ 150000 a day' which appeared in the Business Standard, Calcutta of April 2, 1989; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to the backing out of a contractor, M/s. Comex, France selected by ONGC against a global tender in June, 1988 for laying the inter connecting well flow lines in respect of the early production system proposed for the satellite field D-18, ONGC had to negotiate with the other bidders in this tender for getting the job completed. A fresh contract was, thereafter awarded to the new party selected for this job, M/s. McDermott, USA, at a price of US \$ 4.650 million. Production from these wells commenced w.e.f. 6-6-1989.

Oil terminal at Paradeep

606. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to set up an oil terminal at Paradeep has been approved;

(b) if so, what is the revised estimate of the project; and

(c) what steps are being taken to expedite the establishment of the oil terminal at Paradeep?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Setting up of new oil refineries

607. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to establish new oil refineries in the country;

(b) if so, what is the number of new refineries proposed to be set up during the remaining period of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) whether any programme in this regard has also been drawn up for the Eighth Plan period; and

(d) if so, what is the number of refineries proposed to be set up at different places in the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (d) The Government have decided to set up a new grass root refinery each at Karnal, Mangalore and in Assam. However, these refineries would not be completed during the Seventh Plan period. A Working Group has been constituted for making appropriate recommendations to increase the refining capacity in the country including schemes for debottlenecking the capacity of the existing refineries for inclusion in the Eighth Plan.

Claims of Bhopal gas tragedy victims

608. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) What is the number of victims of Bhopal gas leakage who have filed their claims; and

(b) by when all the claims are likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO):

(a) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh has reported that 6,00,767 persons have filed claims with the Directorate of Claims as on 25th April, 1989.

(b) Certain related issues being still *sub-judice*, it has not been possible to take up processing of claims.

Collaboration for off-shore drilling

609. PROF. C. LAKSHMANA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2890 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th March, 1989 and state:

(a) what are the detail of the terms of collaboration between M/s. Peerless Drive Limited and M/s. Rolv Berg Drive A/S Norway for off-shore drilling; and

(b) whether the new company has already started functioning and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT):

(a) A foreign collaboration had been approved between M/s. Peerless Drive Private Ltd., Calcutta and M/s. Rolv Berg Drive A/S, Norway for off-shore and sub-sea Maintenance work in the Petroleum Sector. The approval provides for, *inter alia*, a foreign equity participation of 40% amounting to Rs. 160 lacs in the total paid up capital of Rs. 400 lacs and a payment of lumpsum know-how fee of US \$ 300—net of taxes with the tax liability being born by M/s.