

with the foreign company's work right from the beginning.

9. The entire data acquired by the foreign company will be available to ONGC.

10. The assets acquired for permanent use in petroleum operations would become ONGC's property once the cost recovery for such assets is claimed by the foreign oil company, without any further payment by ONGC.

(c) No foreign exchange outgo is involved until a commercial discovery of petroleum is made and ONGC exercises the option to participate in the development and protection of such discovery.

#### **Modernisation of Coal Industry in West Bengal**

698. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposals under their consideration for the improvement and modernisation of the coal industry in West Bengal with an estimated investment of Rs. 700 crores;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) at what stage each of the proposal rests at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) Most of the coal mines in West Bengal are being operated and developed by Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL), a subsidiary of Coal India Limited. Against the total 7th Plan provision of Rs. 1014 crores for ECL, the developmental outlays of ECL on coal mines in West Bengal amounted to about Rs. 300 crores in the first three years of the 7th Plan and a further outlay about Rs. 120 crores is envisaged during the current year.

(b) and (c) The ECL outlay on West Bengal coal mines consists of outlay on over 50 mines both completed as well as ongoing. Satgram, Jhanjra and Sonapur-Bazari are the major sanctioned and on-

going projects in West Bengal. Some more projects including major projects like Kottadih, Jambad and Ghusik, are in various stages of investment decision; the projects are likely to yield production results during the 8th/9th Plan periods.

#### **Rural electrification**

699. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for rural electrification during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 in different States; and

(b) the number of villages electrified during the aforesaid period, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) A statement indicating State-wise targets and achievement of village electrification during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 is enclosed (Annexure). (See Appendix CXLVII, Annexure No. 35)

#### **Distribution of LPG connections in West Bengal**

700. SHRI ASHIS SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what were the details of requirements of LPG cylinders in West Bengal per month during the year 1986, 1987 and so far in 1988;

(b) what was actual supply made during the above period per month;

(c) what are the reasons for short supply, if any;

(d) whether there is any plan to set up any LPG bottling plant in the State to meet the growing requirement;

(e) if so, what are the details thereof and by when the plant is likely to be set up; and

(f) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) Monthwise LPG demand/supply statement for West Bengal for 1986, 1987 and 1988 (upto June, 1988) is enclosed (See Appendix CXLVII, Annexure No. 36)

(c) A backlog in supply of LPG refills had developed temporarily in several parts of the country, including West Bengal, recently on account of shortfall in the bulk availability of LPG apart from movement, industrial relations and other operational constraints;

(d) and (e) While there is no proposal to set up any new bottling plant in West Bengal, the capacity of the Paharpur bottling plant is being augmented;

(f) The bottling capacity available in West Bengal adequately meets the require- of the State.

#### Clearance of the Haldia Petrochemical complex

701. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 116 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th April 1988 and state:

(a) what is the latest position of the Haldia petrochemical project promoted by the West Bengal Government and the RPG enterprises; and

(b) what are the reasons for the delay in giving clearance to the project by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) As far as the Ministry of Industry is concerned, necessary approvals for the project including extension in the validity of

letter of intent and in the foreign collaboration approvals have been given from time to time.

#### Irregularities in DESU accounts, pointed out by the Auditors

702. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether gross operational irregularities in the DESU accounts pertaining to the period September, 1985 to January, 1986 were recently detected by the Auditors with the possibility of embezzlement/misappropriation of Undertaking's money;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the estimated loss suffered by DESU as a consequence thereof; and

(c) whether Government have made any inquiry into the irregularities detected in the accounts of DESU; if so, what is the outcome thereof stating the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) According to DESU, the Municipal Chief Auditor has, *inter alia*, observed on the Monthly Accounts of DESU for the period under reference that bank accounts for the months of September 1985 to January 1986 have not been reconciled so far and the accounts cannot be taken as complete. In the absence of the reconciliation, the position of debit and credit outstanding, collection outstanding and cheques outstanding could not be verified in Audit. According to the Chief Auditor, in these circumstances, the possibility of any embezzlement/misappropriation of the Undertaking's money could not be ruled out.

(b) and (c) The reconciliation of accounts is in progress and it would be possible to take necessary action after the details of the loss suffered by DESU, if any, have been ascertained on completion of the reconciliation work.