

(1.5 MMT) and Padur (2.5 MMT) through the Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL), a 100% subsidiary of the Oil Industry Development Board (OIDB). The capacity at Vizag is proposed to be enhanced from 1 MMT to 1.3 MMT. This strategic storage of crude oil would be in addition to the existing storages of crude oil and petroleum products available with the oil companies.

The project involves a capital cost of approximately Rs.2400 crore (at September 2005 prices) and Crude Oil cost of approximately Rs.9000 crore, besides operation and maintenance cost, estimated to be about Rs.90 crore per annum.

Crude oil from the Reserves will be released by a Government-appointed High Powered Committee, to deal with any short-term disruptions in crude oil supplies due to any unforeseen global event like war etc., leading to an abnormal increase in crude oil prices, or to deal with a contingency arising out of a natural calamity.

Investment in Oilfields

958. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of steep fall in output from its ageing Bombay High and other Western offshore fields, the ONGC has decided to invest several crores in the new and existing fields during the current year, to raise output;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether ONGC has suffered losses worth several crores on its ageing oilfields; and

(d) if so, the manner in which Government proposes to revive such ageing oilfields and to make them profitable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Mumbai High is one of the oldest producing oil fields of Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) in the western offshore. The field is under production for more than three decades. The decline in production is a natural phenomenon in old and ageing fields, same is the case with Mumbai High field. ONGC has reported that several Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) schemes have been implemented which helped in arresting the decline in production and in augmenting production of oil and gas in Mumbai High and other major fields of western offshore. The approved cost of the different schemes implemented/being implemented is about Rs. 31,205 crores.

(c) The decline in production from the old and ageing field is a natural process in producing life of a fields and is accounted for in the field development plan. For matured field, sustenance of production requires more inputs in the form of investments for its re-development. This is a standard practice in the global Exploration & Production (E&P) Industry. Therefore, it can not be said that ONGC has suffered losses on its ageing oil field.

(d) ONGC has taken various steps for augmenting/maintaining the crude oil production from existing fields viz. repair of existing wells, optimization of artificial lift and stimulation of wells, Improved Oil Recovery (IOR)/Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) scheme etc.

Supply of Natural Gas to Eastern Zone

959. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether States in the Eastern Zone viz. West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, Orissa are having no supply of natural gas from Bombay High till date;

(b) whether no natural gas has been sourced, so far, from KG basin;

(c) whether similar regional imbalance exists for the southern States of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government to ensure supply of CNG to the cities of those regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, GAIL (India) Ltd. has been issued authorization for Jagdishpur-Haldia trunk pipeline. Further, in order to source gas from KG basin, Reliance Gas Transportation Infrastructure Limited (RGTIL) has been authorized to lay Kakinada-Basudebpur-Haldia trunk pipeline.

(c) GAIL (India) Ltd. has 260 km long trunk pipeline network in Tamil Nadu, wherein around 3 million standard cubic metre per day (mmscmd) gas is being supplied. Authorization has been given to GAIL (India) Ltd. for laying Dabhol-Bangalore and Kochi-Kanjirrakod-Bangalore-Mangalore trunk pipelines. Similarly, authorization has also been given to RGTIL for laying Vijaywada-Nellore-Chennai, Chennai-Bangalore-Mangalore & Chennai-Tuticorin pipelines for supply of gas from KG basin to southern States.

(d) The expansion of CNG infrastructure in different cities in the country is being taken up in a phased manner. In order to promote investment from public as well as private sector for laying trunk natural gas pipelines and city/local natural gas distribution networks throughout the country, the Government of India has enacted 'The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006' and notified the 'Policy for Development of Natural Gas Pipelines and City or Local Natural Gas Distribution Networks' Providing of CNG facilities in a particular city/town area depends *inter alia* upon proximity to trunk natural gas pipelines, availability of gas, setting up of necessary infrastructure and economic viability.

CNG Distribution Centres

†960. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi