

(a) by when commercial production of oil and natural gas from Barmer-Sanchor basin is expected;

(b) whether Government will get "Profit Petroleum" from these fields;

(c) if so, by when;

(d) whether the State Government of Rajasthan will also be given a share out of this profit;

(e) if so, how much percentage; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Crude oil production has started w.e.f. 29.8.2009 from the Mangla Field in the Block RJ-ON-90/1 in Barmer District of Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Government of India will get Profit Petroleum as per the provisions of Production Sharing Contract (PSC) of the Block.

(d) to (f) No, Sir. Profit Petroleum is not shared with the State Government in case of blocks awarded under Pre-NELP (New Exploration Licensing Policy.) However, State Government gets Royalty as per the Notification issued by the Government from time to time.

Status of sale of bio-diesel

[2893. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI:

SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:

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

(a) the status of bio-diesel sale plan in the country;

(b) whether Government has not been able to purchase even a drop of bio-diesel in last four years;

(c) whether there is any dispute between bio-diesel producing companies and oil marketing companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the way Government has found out for its improvement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) To encourage production of bio-diesel in the country, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has announced a Bio-diesel Purchase Policy, in October, 2005, which became effective from 1.1.2006. Under this scheme, Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) will purchase bio-diesel at a uniform landed price which is to be reviewed every six months for blending with High Speed Diesel (HSD) to the extent of 5% at 20 identified purchase centres across the country. At present the purchase price of bio-diesel is Rs. 24.50 per litre which is valid up to 31.03.2010.

[Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

However, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies have not been able to purchase any bio-diesel at the identified purchase Centres so far, as the parties who have expressed interest are not willing to supply at the declared price. As such the bio-diesel programme has not yet taken off.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

NREGS wages in Orissa and Chhattisgarh

[2894. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether rate of wages given in Chhattisgarh and Orissa under National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) is as per All-India Consumer Price Index (CPI); and
- (b) if not, the measures taken to correct this discrepancy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) Wages are paid to the NREGA workers in accordance with the wage rate as provided in Section 6 of the Act. Section 6(1) provides that Central Government may, by notification, specify the wage rate for the purposes of this Act provided that the wage rate notified by the Centre shall not be less than Rs. 60 per day.

Section 6(2) of NREGA provides that until such time as a wage rate is fixed by the Central Government in respect of any area in a State, the minimum wage fixed by the State Governments under Section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for agricultural labourers shall be the wage rate applicable to that area.

Central Government notified wage rate for NREGA workers under Section 6(1) of the Act on 1.1.2009 which taken into account the wage rate fixed by the respective State Governments under Section 3 of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for agricultural labourers. Prior to this date, wages were paid to the NREGA workers in accordance with Section 6(2) of NREG Act. Prevailing wage rate as notified by the Central Government under NREGA for Orissa is Rs. 70.00 and for Chhattisgarh is Rs.80.83.

NREGS in Himachal Pradesh

2895. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of amount allocated, till date, to Himachal Pradesh under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), year-wise and district-wise/Panchayat-wise;
- (b) the total number of jobs created in the State under NREGS, district-wise/Panchayat-wise;

[Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.