

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) As on 1-1-86, the recoverable reserves of gas in the Krishna-Godavari basin were estimated to be 223.5 billion cubic meters. Oil reserves have not been estimated so far.

(b) Efforts are in hand to locate suitable consumers for utilisation of the gas that would be available from around the middle of 1987.

Commercial use of Natural Gas from Krishna Basin

1842. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: 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 "Andhra Pradesh reluctant to use Krishna Basin gas" which appeared in News Time English daily dated 12th September, 1986;

(b) if so, whether 1.5 lakh cubic meters of natural gas can be made available for commercial application; and

(c) by what date the gas is likely to be made available to prospective entrepreneurs?

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

(b) and (c) About 1.5 lakh cubic metres of gas per day is expected to be available by about the middle of 1987.

Interviews in Oil India Ltd. Duliajan

1843. SHRI NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil India Limited, Duliajan did not

call the degree holder local candidates for interview for some posts of Engineers, but called even some diploma holders from outside the state;

(b) whether some local people prevented the OIL Duliajan from holding interview for recruitment in September last; and

(c) what are the details of the points raised by the people in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The local degree holders were not called for interview as they did not possess the experience prescribed for the post. By mistake, a diploma holder was called for interview; but he was not interviewed on discovery of the mistake.

(b) and (c) Some youths blocked the gates of Oil India Limited Office preventing the employees going out. Finally interviews scheduled for 22nd, 24th and 29th September, 1986 were cancelled on law and order grounds. The demands of the local people were:

(i) to cancel the past and future interviews;

(ii) to give written assurance of cancellation;

(iii) O.I.L. to consult them before issuing employment notices and adopting procedures.

Industrial credit in industrial units

1844. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over Rs. 3774 crores of industrial credit is locked up in industrial units till now;

(b) if so, what is the total number of sick industrial units till the end of March, 1986;