

**Use of natural gas from upper Assam oil-fields**

\*54 DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY:

SHRI PARVATHNENI UPENDRA:

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

(a) whether Government have received any request from Government of Assam to allow the State Government to make use of the natural gas from the upper Assam oil-fields which is being flared up; and

(b) if so, what decision Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Natural gas has been committed for supply to the following consumers in Assam on regular basis:

Consumers	Quantity in million cubic metres per day
Assam State Electricity Board	1.00
Tea Estates	0.02
Assam Oil Company	0.22
Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation	} 0.97
Namrup Project Phases I & II	
Assam Gas Company	0.06
Others	0.25
	2.52

In addition, it has been proposed to supply gas to the following consumers also.

	Million cubic metres per day.
Assam State Electricity Board	0.40
Central Electricity Authority	1.00 (to 2.00)
Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Namrup Project Phase III	1.24
Assam Petrochemicals Ltd.	0.14
	3.78

Gas Authority of India Ltd. have also been asked to study the feasibility of connecting the pipelines of Oil India Ltd. and Oil and Natural Gas Commission and thereby supply surplus gas through a trunk pipeline to other users.

**Industries affected by power crisis**

\*55. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a PTI survey published in the Times of India dated June 24, 1986 wherein it has been stated that power crisis and load shedding have affected industry and consumers in most of the States;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what remedial measures had been taken by Government in this regard and what were the reasons for the ineffectiveness of those measures;

(d) what was the loss suffered by the industry on this account during last three years; and

(2) to what extent the power crisis and load shedding was attributable to the inefficiency of the State Electricity Boards and what action Government propose to take against the negligent functionaries of the Boards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The power shortage in some States is mainly on account of reduced hydro generation due to low reservoir levels and the unsatisfactory performance of some thermal stations. The steps taken to improve the supply of power include expediting commissioning of new capacity, better utilisation of existing capacity, implementing short gestation projects, reducing transmission and distribution losses, and implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures. As a result power generation in the country during April to June, 1986 has increased by 10.4% as compared with the corresponding period of 1985.

(d) No study has been made by the Department of Power regarding the loss suffered by industry only on account of power shortage during 1984-85 to 1986-87.

(e) The power shortage is also largely attributable to the demand having outstripped even the increased generation. In order to strengthen the performance of State Electricity Boards, a Centrally sponsored scheme is being implemented to assist the State Electricity Boards in renovating and modernising identified thermal stations. Assistance is also being provided for early stabilisation of newly commissioned units, upgrading the skills of operation and maintenance of personnel and arranging the supply of adequate quantity and quality of coal and of spare parts, etc.

### Inadequate supply of cooking gas in U.P.

\*56. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the irregular and inadequate supply of cooking gas in most of the U.P. towns causing grave hardship to customers ;

(b) is so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to ensure regular cooking gas supply by the various companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) to (c) In Uttar Pradesh (U.P.) LPG is marketed by three Oil Companies namely Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation. At present supply of LPG refills by IOC (which accounts for around 75% market share in the State) throughout U.P. is normal. There is a marginal backlog in supply in some of the markets of HPC, primarily due to the distributors not having placed adequate tenders with the oil company; HPC is taking this up with the distributors to correct the situation. Amongst BPC's markets there has been inadequate supply in two towns in the State, at Agra due to resignation of a distributor and at Hathras on account of termination of a distributorship. Alternative arrangements have been made for supply of LPG refills at these places.