

*185. [The questioners (Shri Nand Kishore Bhatt and Shri Suresh Pachouri) were absent. For answer vide cols. 42-43 infra]

Oil Production in the Country

*186. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:†

DR. SHYAM SUNDAR
MOHAPATRA;

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'No significant oil find by ONGC' which appeared in the Indian Express dated the 14th May, 1985;

(b) what was the annual production of oil in the country during the last three years; year-wise;

(c) what is the estimated oil reserve in the country at present;

(d) whether there is any possibility of Bombay High wells going dry; and

(e) what steps are envisaged to increase oil production and to trace more oil reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM
(SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)

Year	(Fig. in Million Tonnes)
1982-83	21.06
1983-84	26.02
1984-85	28.99

(c) The balance recoverable reserves of oil as on 1.1.85 are estimated at 495 million tonnes.

(d) Yes, Sir. Only after the recoverable quantity of oil has been produced. At the present level of production the recoverable reserves are expected to last for about 15 years.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri V. Gopalsamy.

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(e) Some of the steps taken are—

(1) Intensified exploration efforts.

(2) Improving recovery through enhanced oil recovery techniques, repair of sick wells, etc.

(3) R&D back up and induction of advanced technology in the areas of exploration and exploitation.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, according to the reply given by the hon. Minister, the reserves would last for another 15 years. I want to know whether, unless new reserves are located and tapped, the ratio of annual production to total reserve might fall to 1:15, and in that case what steps the Government is going to take. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister whether in Bombay High which is producing about 20 million tonnes of oil annually there is any risk of renewing the belts of this field because for every 20 million tonnes of oil taken out of the reservoir 50 million cubic metres of water should be injected. So far you have taken out 70 million tonnes of oil from the Bombay High wells whereas only 10 million cubic metres of water has been injected whereas 200 million cubic metres of water should have been injected. So, these wells are facing the danger of depletion. Therefore, I would like to know from the Honourable Minister as to what steps his Ministry is going to take to tackle this problem?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Sir, we are trying to add to our reserves. It is our endeavour to see that our reserves are added. It is because of this fact that in the Sixth Five Year Plan, the reserves were added to the tune of 230 million tonnes. For the Seventh Plan also the Working Group has recommended that 276 million tonnes of reserves may further be added. Therefore, we are constantly trying to add to our reserves and in the effort we hope to succeed.

With regard to the question of Bombay High water injection, I may inform the hon. Member that we have the technical advice from CFD, France.

Regarding trial from the Bombay High, it is only on the basis of that advice and our own expert advice that we are exploiting the resources of oil in the Bombay High. We are adding water injection treatment to the North Bombay High platform. For the South we are likely to add and commence it within few months.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY. Mr. Chairman, Sir, drilling plans for Rajasthan and its off-shore exploration in the Andamans have been totally upset due to the meagre allocation of funds. That is the oil sector received Rs. 1,28,000 crores allocation when they had demanded Rs. 3,44,000 crores. What steps his Ministry has taken to tackle this problem? Whether any indication has been given by the Planning Commission that the fund allocation will be raised?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Sir, the Seventh Plan targets have yet to be finalised. Without the finalisation of targets, it would not be fair for me to say that the plan target would be fixed. It is only after the finalisation of the Seventh Five Year Plan the figures would be known.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. B. Satyanarayan Reddy.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Sir, may I know from the Minister whether any exploratory work has been done in the Godavari Basin with regard to the possibility of finding oil apart from gas?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: With regard to the Godavari Basin, we have not been able to lay hand on oil onshore. But exploratory efforts are going on. I would like to inform the hon. Member, through you, Sir, to the House that in the Cauvery Basin in the month of July itself we have been able to find...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Reddy asked about Godavari, not Cauvery.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Just for information...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, No. Mr. Vishwa Bandhu Gupta.

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Sir, I would like to know from the Minister whether we had any information about the satellites being used for further exploration of oil and location of oil anywhere in the world by other countries and whether our INSAT could be used for survey of oil reserves and for its storage.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Sir, yes, it is a fact that Satellites are being used for this purpose.

Tenders For HBJ Pipeline

*187. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:†

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the firms who have so far submitted tenders for the construction of the HBJ pipeline on a turnkey basis; and

(b) whether the firm which procured the order submitted the lowest tender?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) Tenders for the construction of the HBJ pipeline have not yet been received from any firms.

(b) Does not arise.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Dharam Chander Prashant.