

persons not having nation cards from getting cooking gas connection and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Cost of crude and Petroleum products

2820. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated cost of crude and petroleum products imported during the current year,

(b) the anticipated increase in the domestic production of crude mainly from the offshore oil-fields of Bombay High;

(c) what are the estimated rise between the demand and consumption as compared to the indigenous production;

(d) whether investment target for the oil industry during the current Five Year Plan has already been exceeded without any substantial reduction of imports; if so; what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) what steps are proposed to be taken for 'atleast partially correcting this imbalance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA) : (a) The net import of crude and petroleum products during 1983-84 is estimated at Rs. 3613 crores. The gross imports of crude oil and petroleum products is estimated at Rs. 5270 crores and the exports is estimated at Rs. 1657 crores.

(b) The increase in indigenous crude production in 1983-84 as compared to the previous year 1982-83 is expected at 5.1 million tonnes out of which 4.5 million tonnes increase is anticipated from Bombay High crude.

(c) While the demand in 1983-84 has increased by 1.5 million tonnes over 1982-83, the indigenous production of crude has increased by 5.1 million tonnes over the corresponding period.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Oil Exploration by Indian Company

2821. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the new Indian companies including joint ventures which have been formed to take up direct oil exploration as well as supporting facilities for which Government are willing to give a 10 to 12 per cent price preference;

(b) which of them have launched their projects and which are still in the formation stage; and

(c) how the areas for oil exploration will be allotted to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to set up new Indian companies for conducting exploration of hydrocarbons in India.

Regarding new Indian companies for providing supporting facilities for oil exploration, the Government have decided that it would welcome joint ventures either in the public or private sector with reputed foreign oil companies. At present there is no proposal to give any price preference for such joint ventures. The areas, in which the joint venture companies are being proposed to be established are seismic data acquisition and processing, deep drilling and directional drilling. As far as joint ventures in public sector are concerned, ONGC has already issued a global tender.