

(b) There are plans to produce " 20.95 million tonnes during 1982-83.

Transportation of Bombay High crude in Salaya-Mathura pipelines

332. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Company has received expert opinion of the Italian consultants regarding transportation of Bombay High crude in Salaya-Mathura pipelines and how the Salaya-Mathura pipeline is functioning now; and

(b) by when the Mathura-Delhi product pipeline₃ are likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: (a) Yes, Sir.

At present the Salaya-Mathura Pipeline is transporting Bombay High Crude oil and Imported Crude oil.

(b) Mathura-Delhi Product pipeline has been commissioned towards the end of April 1982.

Malpractice in oil companies

333. SHRI M. S. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the Calcutta Edition of the "Statesman" dated the 10th May, 1982, under the caption "Malpractice cost Madras I.O.C. Rs. 50,000/ per day";

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what action Government have taken in the matter so far; and

(c) what is the position with regard to similar complaints in other Oil Companies in other regions?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been alleged in the news item that there is no proper accounting of cooking gas (LPG) cylinders by the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and that the local unit of the IOC in Madras is incurring a loss of Rs. 50,000/ per day due to the theft of cylinders. Inquiries conducted in this regard reveal that the facts mentioned in the news item are not correct and that a proper accounting procedure in respect of LPG cylinders is followed by the oil companies.

(c) Any similar complaints received in this Ministry regarding the other regions of IOC or the other two oil companies are thoroughly investigated.

Utilisation of Surplus Gas

334. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to re-examine the question of utilising the surplus gas going waste everyday;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: (a) Efforts are being made for maximising the utilisation of gas wherever available.

(b) and (c) In Gujarat, almost the entire production of both associated and free gas stands committed to various consumers except for some low pressure gas which is used internally for production purposes. Besides, a plan has been formulated and is under implementation for connecting small

isolated producing structures for collection and gathering of gas to the major consuming centres. It is also planned to ultimately compress the low pressure gas for utilisation.

In Assam, at present there is surplus gas available, a major part of which is committed for supply to the Namrup-III unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL) and also to the proposed expansion unit of the Assam State Electricity Board (ASEB). A scheme has been drawn up for collection of gas by an inter, connecting gas grid from the different oil fields to a central point for bulk supply to consumers. However, flaring of some quantity of gas becomes inevitable in the event of failure on the consumers' part to off-take the committed quantity and the mechanical failure of equipment, etc. For remain utilisation of the gas from the Bombay High field a pipeline is being laid from Uran to the Maharashtra State Electricity Board Plant and from Uran to the Thai Fertilizer Plant, and gas is being supplied to other users such as M/s. Rash'riya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd. and Tata Electric Company.

Involvement of ONGC officers with foreign companies

335. SHRI ARABINDA GHOSH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that there are some powerful influences within the ONGC which are doing wilful sabotage in the matter of drilling and exploration work in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to conduct a high-power impartial enquiry into this matter to find out the facts about these influential persons in ONGC having links with any foreign companies as it was found in the case of Dr. Ramaswamy a member of ONGC?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: (a)

No such activity has come to notice.

(b) Does not arise.

Utilisation of natural gas

336. SHRI ARABINDA GHOSH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of gas that has been utilised out of 2.8 billion cubic metres of natural gas available in the country during 1980-81; and

(b) the cost of gas unutilised so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: (a) The total production of gas during 1980-81 was about 2319.41 million cubic metres, of this a total quantity of 1564.80 million cubic metres was utilised.

(b) The notional value of the unutilised gas was about Rs. 24.67 crores based on the weighted average price.

Supply of Kerosene oil to States

337. SHRI SANTOSH MITRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the state-wise requirements of kerosene and their monthly allocations during the last six months; and

(b) the reasons for the allocations and the actual supply being far below the minimum requirements of the States?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: (a) It is not possible to indicate the State-wise requirements of kerosene. The allocations of kerosene are being made for four months at a time and for this purpose the year has been divided into three segments of 4 months each. The allocations for the summer months (March-June, 82) and monsoon months (July-October, 82) have been made on a uniform basis after allowing a 5 per cent growth over the average sales in the correspond.