

(b) Currently, the demand for cooking gas is far in excess of the availability of the product. The supply of LPG is limited and not sufficient to meet the demand. Substantial improvement in the supply of LPG and enrolment of customers for cooking gas will be possible only after the availability of the product improves considerably around the year 1980.

Discovery of New Oil and Gas Fields in Padra and Vatwa in Gujarat

28. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new oil and gas fields have recently been discovered in Padra and Vatwa in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, what are the prospects of oil extraction from these fields?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) and (b) A small oil pool has been discovered by the ONGC at Padra. No drilling has so far been carried out at Vatwa. The potentialities of the oil find at Padra are yet to be established for which the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has planned more seismic surveys and exploratory drilling.

Air Pollution due to Hindustan Insecticides

29. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government are aware that the main factory of the Hindustan Insecticides Ltd., is located in a thickly populated area of Delhi and it is a constant health hazard for the residents of the area due to its emitting pungent gas fumes;

(b) Whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to

shift the factory to the outskirts of the city; and

(c) If not, whether any measures are proposed to be taken to prevent air pollution in the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA): (a) The Delhi unit of the Hindustan Insecticides Limited was set up in 1954 at a site which was then on the outskirts of Delhi. Subsequently, with the increase in population of Delhi, the area around the factory has been inhabited gradually. However, the factory is not emitting pungent gases, which could cause health hazards for the residents of the area.

(b) In view of the expansion of their activities a proposal to shift a part of the Delhi factory connected mainly with the formulation activity is under consideration of the Government.

(c) Ever since its inception, the unit has taken appropriate steps to prevent the environmental pollution by ensuring proper treatment of the factory effluents, it has also facilities for the removal and absorption of contaminants of the atmosphere at the source itself. The effluent system has been streamlined with the help and under the guidance of the Central Public Health Research Institute and other leading consultants in this field. Recovery/absorption system set up in the unit ensures that none of the gases find their way into the atmosphere in quantities which may be obnoxious to the surroundings. Likewise the liquid effluent from the factory is being treated to render it innocuous in an elaborate effluent treatment plant. Thus the Company is sparing no efforts to prevent environmental pollution.

Processing of Bombay High Crude by the Cochin Refinery

30. SHRI S. KUMARAN: Will the