

(b) Law and order is a State subject. However, in consultation with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Planning Commission, the guidelines of Rural Development schemes, such as Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) have been relaxed in LWE/ Integrated Action Plan (IAP) districts to facilitate the implementation of the scheme more effectively.

Audit of oil reserves held by ONGC

*298. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the audits conducted by Gaffery Cline and Associates and DeGolyer and Mac Naughten, according to which ONGC has 64 domestic fields having a total reserve of 1.1 billion tones of oil and oil equivalent natural gas;

(b) if so, by when the actual exploration, either by the ONGC itself or through Public-Private-Partnership entities, is likely to be commenced; and

(c) whether any cost-benefit analysis has been conducted so as to find out whether ONGC's own exploration or through auctioning of block is better and cost-effective, keeping in view the total scenario of timely availability?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The reserves of 64 fields of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) as on 01.10.2010 were audited by the third party consultants, 63 fields were audited by DeGolyer and MacNaughten and one field by Gaffery Cline & Associates. The reserves estimated for these 64 fields is 0.966 billion tones of oil and oil equivalent gas.

(b) The estimation of reserves has been carried out after exploration and most of the fields are under development/production.

(c) ONGC is carrying out exploration in its onland and offshore operational areas and is producing hydrocarbons from the fields discovered by it. It has not carried out any cost benefit analysis on this account.

Allotment of Kerosene to Rajasthan

†*299. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether it is a fact that Rajasthan is the largest State of the country geographically;
- (b) whether Government proposes to increase the allotment of kerosene from 42636 KL to 71600 KL per month, keeping in view the geography and population of the State; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir. Rajasthan is geographically the largest State of the country.

(b) and (c) At present, there is no proposal under consideration in this Ministry for increasing the allocation of PDS Kerosene to the State of Rajasthan. At present, the PDS Kerosene quota for the State of Rajasthan has been fixed at 5,11,404 KL for the year 2011-12, after effecting a reduction of 240 KL, as this quantity remained unlifted by the State Government during 2010-11, without any extension of time sought for lifting. On the same grounds, reductions have been made in respect of other States as well.

**Augmentation of staff- strength, in the officer of
Accountant - General, Kerala**

*300.DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) and the Central Government have received any request from the employees' organizations for increase in staff strength in the offices of the Accountant-General, Kerala (Audit), in view of the increased work load in these offices; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will consider the request favourably?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) As per the information provided by the C&AG Office, no request from the employees' organizations for increase in staff strength in the offices of the Accountant General, Kerala (Audit), has been received by the C&AG Office. The Central Government has also not received any such request in this regard so far.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Exodus from villages due to water scarcity

2171. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state: