

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) There is no proposal for grant of Maharatna status to any Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) pending with Department of Public Enterprises.

(b) The Government had introduced the Maharatna scheme in February, 2010. Four CPSEs, namely, (i) Indian Oil Corporation Limited, (ii) NTPC Limited, (iii) Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited, and (iv) Steel Authority of India Limited were granted Maharatna status in May, 2010. Coal India Limited was granted Maharatna status in April, 2011.

(c) Does not arise.

Loss Incurring PSUs

2127. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:-

(a) the number of loss making Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and the total amount of loss incurred by these PSUs during the last financial year;

(b) the reasons for losses, increased or decreased, over the last three years and the reasons thereof;

(c) the number of PSUs with negative net worth and their consolidated net worth; and

(d) the steps Government proposes to deal with such PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) As on 31.3.2011, there were 62 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), which were incurring losses during 2010-11. Loss of CPSEs during the last three years is given below:

Years	Loss making CPSEs (No. 5)	Losses (Rs. in crore)
2010-11	62	21693
2009-10	60	16231
2008-09	55	14621

Source: Public Enterprises Survey (2010-11).

The reasons for increase or decrease in losses are enterprise specific, which *inter-alia* includes lack of working capital, surplus manpower, old plants and machinery, obsolete technology, heavy interest burden, weak marketing strategy, etc.

(c) As on 31.3.2011, there were 49 CPSEs with negative net worth amounting to Rs. 68404 crore at the aggregate/consolidated level.

(d) the Government set up the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) in December, 2004 to advise the Government on revival of sick / loss making CPSEs. Based on the recommendations of BRPSE, the Government has been taking measures to revive sick & loss making CPSEs through financial restructuring, business restructuring, modernization and manpower rationalization.

Fool-Proof Technology for Preventing Oil Spill

2128. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is adopting an attitude of “abundant caution” so as to eliminate the unfortunate incidents like oil spill which happened in Gulf of Mexico, where British Petroleum-partnering Reliance Industries Ltd., in 21 oil and gas blocks in KG Basin were involved in exploration activities;

(b) if so, whether any fool-proof global technology has been evolved which significantly helps in eliminating oil spill incidents;

(c) whether research and development institutes of oil giants like ONGC, GAIL, IOC, etc. are doing advanced level studies in this direction; and

(d) if so, the gist of the progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N.SINGH): (a) In the ‘Offshore Safety Rules’, there are specific Rules to safeguard against eventualities like oil spill. Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) issued guidelines to be followed by the industry for blow out preventer (BOP) recertification, and third party verification of offshore drilling rigs. During the process of according ‘consent to operate’ to offshore drilling rigs, OISD is emphasizing on fit-for-purpose status of the rig including well control equipment (BOP) and competency of personnel. In the aftermath of Gulf of Mexico incident, on advice of OISD in May 2010, the companies operating in offshore had carried out total review of safety system at their offshore drilling rigs.

It has been emphasized that all Exploration and Production (E & P) Companies be fully prepared for any contingencies even at the cost of redundancy in safety systems and there should not be any compromise or cost cutting on safety related issues. The following points have been decided:-

- (i) Oil and Gas offshore E & P Operators are to employ the best international codes and practices during the exploration and production jobs in offshore and in onshore areas and observation of existing standards of audit and compliance to the safety audits are required to be done by the Operators.
- (ii) All offshore E & P Operators have been advised to ensure oil spill response