

State Government. Details of breach of any of the covenants or agreements of the lease deed as also the action taken against the lessee are available with State Governments and are not maintained Centrally.

Conversion of oil well in Cambay region into heritage site

849. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that first well dug for oil in Cambay region in Gujarat has been termed as National Heritage/ Monument but still oil is seeping out of the well; and

(b) if so, why oil exploration was stopped and this well turned into a 'homage' site, although oil and gas is still found there in abundance and ONGC has sold out/ leased the area to a private company ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The first well Lunej-1(Cambay-1) was spudded on 25.07.1958. The discovery of hydrocarbon at Lunej in Cambay region laid the foundation for the growth of Exploration and Production (E&P) in the country in general and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) in particular. ONGC has been given the well Lunej-1 (Cambay-1) for developing it as an archival memorial. Only the area around the well is part of the memorial. There is no oil seepage.

The Cambay field was discovered by ONGC in 1958 and 58 wells were drilled to develop it. The field was offered under development bidding by Government of India in 1992 along with 30 other small sized oil and gas fields in Onland and Offshore areas. ONGC has continued exploration and development activities in the other acreages operated by it in the Cambay Basin.

Government of India, signed a Production Sharing Contract with a consortium of Gujarat State Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (later renamed as Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited) and M/s Niko Resources on 23.09.1994. The said Cambay field, measuring 161 sq. km, was handed over to the consortium on 01.02.1996.

Consumption of indigenously produced and imported gas

850. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total consumption of gas in the country during last three years and how much of it is indigenously produced and how much is imported;