

- (vi) The State Governments have been advised to undertake skill up-gradation and training programmes for the Tibetan Refugees.
- (vii) State Governments have been requested to give permission to the Tibetan Refugees to run Tibetan Bazars to trade in Tibetan Artefacts, handlooms and handicrafts.
- (viii) Tibetan refugees should be entitled for flood/famine relief as is extended to the Indian Citizens.
- (ix) Qualified professionals from amongst the Tibetan Refugees may be permitted to pursue/take jobs in private and non-Government Sectors in any field for which they are professionally qualified.
- (x) The State Governments have been advised to allow the Tibetans to undertake such economic activities as they may desire and to that extent trade licenses/ permission be given.

Evaluation of Shale Gas Project in Damodar Basin

*70. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Geophysical Research Institute in association with Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research and Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Ltd. is jointly working on the evaluation of Shale Gas project in Damodar basin;

(b) whether 3D seismic survey in the identified project sites is held up since August, 2014 due to non-release of ` 3.51 crores towards cost escalation;

(c) if so, the reasons for non-release of the fund; and

(d) whether any site of Shale Gas project in Damodar basin falls within West Bengal, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRAPRADHAN) : (a) to (d) As per the Information provided by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Ltd. (CMPDI), Ranchi, a Ministry of Coal S&T funded Project titled "Shale gas potentiality evaluation of Damodar Basin of India" is under implementation from December, 2012 with November, 2015 as scheduled date of completion.

The basic objective of the project is to evaluate Damodar/ other coal bearing sedimentary basins of India for their shale gas potentiality through integrated Geophysical, Geological, Geochemical and Petrophysical investigations.

The Principal implementing agency of the project is National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad and the Sub-implementing agencies are Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Ltd. (CMPDI), Ranchi and Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CIMFR), Dhanbad. The total approved cost of the Project was ₹ 1686.84 Lakh (NGRI: ₹ 462.59 Lakh, CMPDI: ₹ 1054.30 Lakh, CIMFR: ₹ 169.95 Lakh). Of the total approved cost for NGRI, ₹ 410.0 lakh was released till 09.09.2014 which was almost 90% of their approved cost.

The sites for the 3 D seismic survey were identified in Raniganj and Jharia Coalfields after carrying out field visits by NGRI, CIMFR and CMPDI officials. NGRI subsequently requested for additional fund of ₹ 506.45 lakh for carrying out the 3 D seismic survey, which was not envisaged in the approved project. An additional amount of ₹ 351.25 lakh was approved in the 49th meeting of Standing Scientific Research Committee (SSRC) held on 16.02.2015. Of this, an amount of ₹ 250.0 lakh was released to NGRI on 16.04.2015. The revised cost of the project now works out to Rs 2038.09 lacs (NGRI: ₹ 813.84 Lakh, CMPDI: ₹ 1054.30 Lakh, CIMFR: ₹ 169.95 Lakh). The survey is yet to start.

Of the 2 sites short listed for Shale Gas studies, Rangamati B Block falls in West Bengal and the other site Pipratand- Radhanagar is in Jharkhand.

Increase in violence in J&K and North-Eastern States

*71. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of violence have hit a rock bottom in the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas but casualties have arisen both in J&K and the North-East after many years of receding violence levels, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that contrary to popular perception, incidents of communal violence decreased last year, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY) : (a) It is a fact that the number of