

| Sl. No | Name of project   | Company | State  |
|--------|---|---------|--------|
| 24.    | LPG Import Facility at Paradip  | IOCL    | Odisha |
| 25.    | Development of Surface Facilities for Production and Evacuation of Crude Oil and Natural Gas from Nadua and East Khagorijan | OIL     | Assam  |

#### Oil well fires

445. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:  
SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of fires occurred in the oil wells in the country during the last three years, details thereof;
- (b) whether any enquiry is ordered into the fire at Tinsukia oil well in Assam owned by Oil India Ltd.;
- (c) if so, the findings of the preliminary enquiry;
- (d) whether any damage is caused to the wetland nearby oil fields, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the loss of revenue to the company due to oil fire; and
- (f) the steps taken to ensure plugging leakage and control the pressure effectively, to prevent such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Number of fires occurred in oil well installations in the last three years reported to Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD), are given below:—

| Sector   | 2017-18                       | 2018-19   | 2019-20 |
|----------|-------------------------------|---|---------|
| Number   | 01                            | 03  | 00      |
| Location | Well Hapjan-28, Hapjan, Assam | 1. NKH 640 & 637 under OCS-4, Assam<br>2. Cambay 57, well site<br>3. ONGC workover rig, Akash# 4. Ahmedabad | Nil     |

(b) and (c) Ministry has constituted a three Member Inquiry Committee to inquire into this incident. In addition, Inquiry Committees have also been set up by Directorate General of Mines and Safety (DGMS), and Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD), Government of India. The report submitted by OISD suggests that pulling out of drill pipe and nipple down Blowout Preventer before complete settling of cement is the root cause of incidence.

(d) There has been impact on the nearby areas because of the heat and noise generated from the blowout well of Baghjan field. M/s The Energy Research Institute (TERI) has been engaged for Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) monitoring and Bio-remediation, North East Institute of Science and Technology (NEIST) for Seismological Study and IIT, Guwahati for heat impact through Thermal Imaging.

(e) The well was producing gas @80,000 MMSCMD before the well was put under work over. The blowout at well resulted in closure of number of producing oil and gas wells in and around Baghjan due to protest staged by local people. The closures of producing wells has resulted in an estimated revenue loss of about ₹ 148 crore to the company during the period from 27.05.2020 to 08.09.2020. The revenue loss due to gas burning uncontrollably into the atmosphere from the blowout well could not be ascertained as no measurement was possible due to fire and extreme heat.

(f) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas regularly monitors and reviews various safety measures in the oil and gas sector and directs the companies from time to time to take suitable measures to ensure safety in these installations. OISD, a technical Directorate of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas formulates safety standards for the entire Oil and Gas Industry. The Directorate carries out regular safety audits to check and review whether the safety standards and norms are being followed by the industry. The audits include External safety Audits and Surprise safety Audits at periodic intervals to cover all the existing installations; pre-commissioning safety audit of all new facilities being added to the existing installation and new installation being set up, before commissioning of the facilities. In order to prevent such accidents in future, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) are also being re-visited for making improvements, if any.

#### **Srikakulam-Angur natural gas pipeline**

446. SHRI V. VIJAYSAI REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of status of Srikakulam-Angur natural gas pipeline;