

**Appointment of consultant by IOC**

2115. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation has any plans to appoint a consultant to streamline its production planning process; and

(b) if so, the details of bids received regarding the appointment of a consultant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bids were received from three reputed lead vendors in the area of providing solutions for optimization in hydrocarbon industry as follows:

(i) M/s. Aspentech Inc.

(ii) M/s. Invensys India Pvt. Ltd.

(iii) M/s. Tata Honeywell Limited

Based on the techno-commercial evaluation, the job has been awarded to M/s. Tata Honeywell Limited, Pune.

**Commercial viability of new discoveries**

2116. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that new deposits of oil and gas have been discovered in different parts of the country in the last six months;

(b) if so, the States where these deposits have been discovered;

(c) whether these discoveries are commercially viable; and

(d) if so, what would be their impact on Indian economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Discoveries of crude oil and natural gas have been made in both onland and offshore areas during the last six months.

(b) The discoveries have been made in the States of Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan.

[11 March, 2003]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) and (d) After appraisal of discoveries, their commercial viability or otherwise is determined and import of hydrocarbons would reduce to the extent of production from the commercial discoveries.

**Allotment of petrol pumps to dependants of CISF**

2117. SHRI S. M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have followed a policy of rewarding the widows of personnel of CISF with allotment of petrol pumps and LPG agencies after their spouses' deaths in Kashmir;

(b) the number of such applications pending from spouses of CISF personnel killed in action in Kashmir;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have originally promised such assistance;

(d) the reasons for the deliberate go-slow of Government in this regard; and

(e) the date by when such promises are likely to be met by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (e) Till the dissolution of all the Dealer Selection Boards (DSBs) after the deregulation of the Petroleum Sector with effect from 1.4.2002, 8% reservation was provided in the guidelines for the Police/Paramilitary/Government Personnel (PMP) category including widows/dependants of the CISF personnel killed/died while in service in Jammu & Kashmir and other parts of the country.

The Government has earmarked a discretionary quota of dealerships/distributorships for allotment on genuine compassionate grounds to deserving persons in the following categories:—

- (i) Dependants of Defence/Paramilitary/Police personnel, who are killed in action or persons permanently disabled while performing their duties and have not been suitably rehabilitated;