

Discovery of Oil in Peppara, Trivandrum District

3388. SHRI B. K. NAIR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether traces of crude oil have been found in Peppara in Trivandrum District;

(b) whether Government proposes to carry out intensive exploration in the area; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). There is no proposal to carry out intensive exploration in the area as, on geological considerations, chances of finding commercial crude oil in onshore Kerala are considered very remote.

Cooking gas connections in Rajasthan

3389. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cooking gas connections in the country as on 30th May, 1980 (State-wise);

(b) the total number of cooking gas connections in each district of Rajasthan; and

(c) steps being taken to provide cooking gas connections in areas not covered so far?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) State-wise number of cooking gas con-

nections released in the country upto 31-3-1980 is as under:

Name of State/ Union Territory	No. of connections released
J & K	19,460
Assam	25,387
Andhra Pradesh	1,97,965
Bihar	1,03,093
Gujarat	3,37,779
Haryana	53,904
Karnataka	1,22,155
Himachal Pradesh	5,358
Kerala	58,412
Meghalaya	3,130
Manipur	1,263
Mizoram	1,077
Madhya Pradesh	1,60,483
Nagaland	2,400
Orissa	36,421
Punjab	55,105
Rajasthan	44,119
Sikkim	51,299
Tripura	1,128
Uttar Pradesh	2,70,630
Tamil Nadu	2,13,321
Delhi (U.T.)	3,13,521
Chandigarh (U.T.)	26,757
Pondicherry (U.T.)	5,641
West Bengal	1,73,149
Goa	12,150
Maharashtra	8,95,377
Total	31,47,569