

De-Hiring Of Rigs By Private Companies

5374. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the de-hiring of rigs by private companies in the Bombay High has commenced recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made an assessment of the impact of de-hiring of rigs by private companies on the annual production of Crude oil in the Bombay High; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) and (b). On completion of the contracts, one jack up rig 'Miss Kitty' and one drillship 'Viking Driller' have been de-hired by ONGC on 31st July and 8th May, 1991 respectively.

(c) and (d). The de-hiring of these rigs do not have an immediate impact on the production of Crude oil from Bombay High. However, ONGC have already initiated action for charter hiring jack up rigs for which contracts have expired or are due to expire shortly.

Coal Resources in Andhra Pradesh

5375. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested his Ministry to develop coal resources in the state; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard during the current year, and proposed to be taken during the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) Yes, Sir, Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. (SCCL), a joint undertaking of the Govt. of India and the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, has sought the assistance of the Ministry of Coal to develop coal resources in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) A Plan Outlay of Rs. 340.00 crores (including Rs. 11.00 crores Andhra Pradesh State Govt's share of equity) for 1991-92 has been approved by the Govt. of India for development of coal projects of SCCL. The coal production target for SCCL for 1991-92 has been fixed at 20.50 million tonnes. The proposals for the development of Singareni Coal projects during the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) are under formulation by SCCL.

Tourism Development

5376. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have developed any tourist resorts in the country as an alternative to Kashmir;

(c) the names of places developed so far; and

(b) the provision made for this purpose in 1990-91 and 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Development of tourist resorts is primarily the responsibility of State Governments and they are being developed by concerned state Governments. The question of developing any tourist resort by the Central Government in the country as an alternative to Kashmir therefore does not arise.