

Royalty on Crude Oil

2050. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI:
DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA:
SHRIMATI BHAVNADEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA:
SHRISHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL:

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

(a) whether the Government fixed actual rate of royalty on crude oil on the basis of production for every year from 1993-94;

(b) if not, the reasons for delay in arriving at the decision;

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to compensate the oil producing States for increasing arrears on this account;

(d) whether representations have been received from Gujarat and other States in this regard; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Royalty in respect of crude oil is governed by the provisions of the Oil fields (Regulation & Development) Act, 1948 and the Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules, 1959. Royalty is not fixed on the basis of production.

(c) Royalty rates are worked out on the basis of actual weighted average cost of production of crude oil duly audited by C&AG. Pending fixation of final rate of royalty for the period 1993-94 to 1995-96, royalty payments have been made on provisional basis. The provisional rates are subject to adjustments on notification of final rate of royalty for this period on receipt of audited figures of cost of production from C&AG.

(d) and (e) Representations from Governments of Assam and Gujarat have been received. Certain amendments to the Oilfields (Regulation & Development) Act, 1948 are considered necessary.

Bomb Explosions in Trains

2051. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the incident of bomb explosions occurred in trains during 1997 and in 1998, train-wise and location-wise;

(b) the number of persons killed/injured in each incident and the value of the Government property damaged therein;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the findings thereof;

(e) the details of the compensation paid by the Government to the victims of bomb explosions in trains; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Shortage of Hospitals

2052. SHRI RAMTAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of hospitals in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have fixed any target for opening new hospitals during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which the process of opening of new hospitals is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) to (d) As per information available, there are 13692 hospitals in the country. 'Health' being a State subject, it is the responsibility of the State Government to establish hospitals in the States keeping in view their priorities and availability of resources.

[English]

Freedom Fighters and Martyrs

2053. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether freedom fighters and martyrs like Bhagat Singh, Sukhdeo, Rajguru and others are still treated as robbers an anti-social elements as defined by the statutes of British Raj;

(b) if so, the reasons for not commemorating their birth day and martyrdom days through official functions; and

(c) the exact status provided to these great freedom fighters by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No proposal to commemorate the birth days and martyrdom days through official functions has been received.