

(O) whether any other proposals ; are under the consideration of Gov- | eminent to make quality paper avail- | able to publishers a* reasonable pri- f ces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUST- S RIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) It has been brought to the notice of Government that the Indian Book Industry is facing some constraints because of the rising prices of various inputs. Tn so far as paper is concerned, Government have taken a number of steps to increase its production and improve its quality. These include fiscal reliefs, facility of duty-free import of pulp, wood chips and waste paper, etc. As a result of the various steps taken, the production of paper has increased from 13.70 lakh tonnes in 1984 to 15.00 lakh tonnes (estimated) in 1985. The National Book Development Council has submitted a report entitled "Towards a National Book Policy." This report has made several recommendations to improve the condition of the publishing industry. According to the Ministry of Human Resource Development, these recommendations are being examined in consultation with other Depart- ments/agencies .

Alleged irregularities by Chairman, O- I-Is Dnliajan

1734. SHRI NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after the present Chairman-oum-Managing Director joined the Oil India Limited, Duliajan, some serious anomalies have taken place involving lot of expenditure;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a drill-ship at a fantastic daily rate is being hired by the OIL for the puroose of drilling only one well at Andamans;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to the mismanagement of the present Chairman-cum-Managing Director, the OIL stands to lose one crore of rupees in respect of a pur-"Chase deal signed with an Iron and Steel Company; and

(d) whether Government would make a thorough inquiry into the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHI- LA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) There is no mismanagement. OIL is required to buy part of he re- quirement-of casing pipes from indi- genous source (TISCO) at BICP prices which are relatively higher.

(d) Does not arise.

Exploration and Exploitation Programme

1735. SHRI M. S. GURUPADA- SWAMY: Will the Minister of PET- ROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ex- ploration and exploitation programme carved out by Oil and. Natural Gas Commission has not proved effective and offers little prospects for the next few years;

(b) whether any strategy has been planned for proper and effective search for hydrocarbons in the conn-try; and

(c) if so, what are the detail*? the- reto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHI- LA ROHATGI): (a) No, Sir. Ex-