

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Both sides reviewed the progress of seismic work by Indo-Soviet Team in the Ranaghat-Jaguli-Krishnagar area of West Bengal and agreed to extend the contracts up-to 1985-86.

The drilling of Bodra-2 well in West Bengal by the Indo-Soviet Team was also reviewed.

Two Soviet teams are working in Gujarat for work-over operations on sick wells. It was decided to extend the existing contract. In addition Soviet side¹ has agreed to provide four additional work-over teams.

Both sides have^{*} been freed to further accelerate the cooperation in the field of acquisition of seismic data and its processing, petroleum geology, interaction between the scientific and Research institutes, deputation of Soviet Specialists to India and *vice-versa* and also for training the Indian Engineers and Geo-scientists in USSR in related fields.

Electricity Generation from Tidal Waves in West-Bengal

944. SHRI BISWA GOSWAMI: DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of West Bengal has sought permission to conduct an experiment to generate electricity from tidal waves in the Gossaba area in the Sunderbans;

(b) whether the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur has been conducting experiments in this regard;

whether Government have received any reports from the Government of West Bengal on this experiment; and

(c) if yes, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (d) As per the information available with the Central Electricity Authority, the West Bengal State Electricity Board (WBSEB) had proposed a feasibility report for the development of tidal power in the Sunderbans area in West Bengal. This report envisages 2X2 MW installation in Durga duani creek from which it is proposed to supply power to Gossaba area. Following discussions on the report in the CEA, guidelines for further investigations to carry out feasibility study were sent to the WBSEB in June, 1983 and information on the subject was also sent by the CEA to the State Planning Board, Government of West Bengal in April, 1984. Earlier in December, 1980 the WBSEB had intimated the CEA that with a view to determine design and operational parameters, a model study of the scheme had been taken up in collaboration with I.I.T. Kharagpur. The CEA have requested the WBSEB to send them a copy of the report on the model studies carried out so far. This is awaited from the WBSEB.

Gujarat Petrochemical Project

945. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI SUSHIL CHAND
MOHUNTA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Gujarat Petrochemical Project is getting delayed due to inter-ministerial bureaucratic tussles;

(b) what will be the total outlay of the project; and

(c) by when the project is expected to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The tentative estimated cost of the project is Rs. 804 crore, including foreign