

the execution of certain exploration projects in Krishna-Godavari basin, both Onshore and Off-shore.

(c) ONGC is considering the merits of seeking foreign consultancy in the exploration of oil in the Godavari Basin. The tentative interest expressed by certain oil companies is yet to be considered by the ONGC.

**Alleged attempt by DESU to hush up some of its financial and technical irregularities**

561. SHRI ABDUL REHMAN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 9th April, 1981 regarding efforts by DESU to hush up the alleged financial and technical irregularities in the purchase of pillar boxes worth over Rs. 22 lakh in 1979-80; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and the steps being taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Government has seen the news report. DESU has reported that the case relating to alleged irregularities in the purchase of 1000 L.T. (pillar boxes) is under investigation by CBI.

**Report of the Site Selection Committee for setting up of Aromatics Plants**

562. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: SHRI PILOO MODY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Site Selection Committee appointed to set up plants for production of Aromatics has submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are its main recommendations; and

(c) if not, by when it is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main recommendations of the Committee are setting up of three Aromatics plants one each at Cochin in Kerala, at Usar in Maharashtra and at Saleempur in U.P.

(c) Does not arise.

**Illegal Coal Mining**

563. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: SHRI PILOO MODY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments or the Coal Companies have detected any offenders engaged in illegal coal mining after its nationalisation;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken against the offenders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) As and when the State Governments or coal companies detect illegal coal mining, the cases are registered against offenders.

(b) and (c) The details are being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

**Setting up of a Super Thermal Power Station at Chandrapur**

564. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: SHRI PILOO MODY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 1282 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd March, 1981 and state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the proposal which was