

Finance Ministries are negotiating for leasing out blocks for offshore exploration are insisting on a major departure from the guidelines laid down by Government in its circular to all the short-listed companies before they could consider entering into an agreement;

(b) if so, whether one of the guideline is that all the foreign companies should at the end of five years after discovery and production of oil hand over all operations to the oil and natural gas commission;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some of the foreign firms have opposed their time limit; and

(d) whether Government has agreed to give some concession in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) to (d) Negotiations are in progress with foreign oil companies. It will not be in public interest to disclose any thing further at this stage.

#### Exploration for oil in coastal areas

2452. SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY:  
SHRI KALPNATH RAI:

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

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission propose to undertake oil exploration work in coastal areas other than the Bombay High; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

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

(b) As per ONGC's Sixth Five Year Plan 1980-85 two more contract seismic parties apart from ONGC's own seismic survey ship 'MV Anveshak', are planned for deployment to

cover the Eastern and Western continental shelf and slope areas by seismic surveys. 95 Exploratory wells involving a total metreage of 275,000m involving 22.8 rig years are planned to be drilled in the offshore areas for exploration purposes.

#### Functioning of Sangli All India Radio

2453. SHRIMATI VIJAYA RAJE SCINDIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received complaints regarding the continuous disturbance by the Sangli All India Radio Station;

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

(c) what action Government propose to take in this regard; and

(d) whether any suggestions have been made to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (c) No, Sir. But, of late, there has been an increase in the number of interruptions due to power supply. Out of 4007 hours of scheduled programmes, 65 hours and 12 minutes of programme were lost due to non-availability of power supply for transmitter in the year 1980-81. In order to avoid this, AIR is planning to instal a captive Diesel Generator.

(b) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

#### Two promotion scheme in P and T Department

2454. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to certain objections raised by the Ministry of Finance regarding the Scheme