[RAJYA SABHA]

to Questions

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it is difficult to state when production will commence. Presently, the proposal is to produce the film in English language, with possibility of a Hindi version.

Gas found near Pondicherry

579. SHRI SURENDRA MOHAN. Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gas has been struck by the oil and Natural Gas Commission in the Porto Novo off-shore site near Pondicherry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM. CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b) The ONGC spudded a well at an offshore location about 17 kms East of Portonovo town near Pondicherry on 13th June, 1980. The well was drilled to a depth of 1705 metres. On testing small quantities of gas were encountered in one zone. The second well is under drilling. A few more wells may have to be drilled to determine the commerciality of this gas find.

580. [Transferred to the 8th August, 1980].

Censor of films brought with Video Sets

581. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:

SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA: SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

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Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a lot of uncensored films have been brought along with Video Sets and are being shown to a large number of people in big cities on mutual exchange basis; and (b) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to censor these films?

THE MINISTER OF STATE YN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (b) Government have no information regarding uncensored films imported into the country along with Video Sets or shows being held of these films. The Cinematograph Act 1952 applies only to public exhibition of cinematograph films. Only films certified by the Board of Film Censors can thus be exhibited. Public exhibition of uncensored films is an offence under the Cinematograph Act. Enforcement of the provisions of the Act rests with the State Governments and the Union Territories.

Telecasting of Urdu programmes on Delhi Doordarshan

582. SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for not telecasting any programme in Urdu on Delhi Doordarshan despite the fact that large number of Urdu speaking people live in and around Delhi; and

(b) whether Government propose to start urdu programmes; if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Urdu Programmes are already being telecast from Delhi Doordarshan Kendra at regular intervals.

(b) Does not arise.

Scheme to conserve petroleum products

583. DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHE-MICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased t_0 state:

(a) whether Government have evolved any scheme t_0 conserve petroleum

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