

**Drilling of off-Shore well in
Mahanadi Basin**

*17. SHRI DHANESHWAR MAJHI:
SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD
NANDA: SHRI
HAREKRUSHNA MALLICK:

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

(a) the number of exploratory
drillings undertaken during the
period from the 1st January, 1977 to the 31st
October, 1978 and the areas where the
exploratory drilling was undertaken;

(b) whether there is any proposal under
Government's consideration for starting the
work of spudding the first off-shore well in
Mahanadi Basin by the Oil India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM,
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI
H. N. BAHUGUNA). (a) Oil India Limited
undertook drilling of 4 exploratory wells
during this period, one each at Manabum and
Kumchai and two in Moran area. Information
Regarding ONGC is being collected and will
be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. O.I.L. is working on a
plan to spud in its first off-shore well
sometime during 1979.

**Casual Workers and Commission
bearers on the Central Railways.**

*18. SHRI LAKSHMANA
MAHAPATRO:
SHRIMATI PRATIMA
BOSE: SHRI
JAHARLAL
BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be
pleased to state:

(a) the total number of bearer, employed
on Commission basis and casual workers in
the catering as well as other Departments in
different Zonal Railways and other Railway
Establishments, who have been absorbed in
regular Class IV service during the last three
years;

(b) what is the number of such employees,
establishment-wise, still awaiting absorption;

(c) what are the reasons for the delay in
their absorption on a regular basis; and

(d) by when all such casual employees
are likely to be absorbed in regular service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO
NARAIN). (a) Orders were issued in April
1978 to absorb 1012 Commission Bearers in
regular Class IV service. The target date for
this is 31.12.1978.

About 24,000 casual labour/substitutes
have been absorbed on regular basis on the
Indian Railways during the last three years.

(b) Information is being collected
and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) Though every effort
is being made to absorb on regular
basis as many casual labours/sub-
stitutes/Commission bearers as pos-
sible, their absorption depends upon
the availability of regular vacan-
cies. No time limit can, therefore, be
laid down for the purpose, except in
the case of 1012 Commission Bearers,
as mentioned in answer to part (a)
of the question.