

1977, which was affected adversely on account of heavy rains, cyclonic weather conditions and some agitations. Every feasible effort is being made to run the trains punctually.

**Steps to provide cheap and prompt Justice to the common man**

365. SHRI F. M. KHAN:  
SHRI U. R. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the concrete steps which Government propose to take to provide cheap and prompt justice to the common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI NARSINGH YADAV): It is the intention of the Government to provide less expensive and prompt justice to the common man. With this object in view the terms of the Eighth Law Commission, which has been reconstituted have been revised and among other things, prominence has been given therein to the review of the system of judicial administration so as to secure, elimination of delays, speedy clearance of arrears and reduction in costs so as to secure quick and economical disposal of cases and simplification of procedure to reduce and eliminate technicalities and devices for delay.

**Exploration of gas and oil in the Country**

366. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in the exploration of gas and oil deposits in the country during the current year; and

(b) whether any deposits of gas and oil have been found recently; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Geological and Geophysical surveys are being carried out in various parts of the country on land. The seismic survey ship of ONGC is also conducting gravity and seismic surveys in off-shore areas. A total of 70,590 metres was drilled and 37 wells completed on land and 26,043 metres and 13 wells in off-shore areas were completed by ONGC during April—August 1977. During the same period, Oil India Limited drilled 8 complete wells and 2 part wells with a meterage of 27,657 metres. The Asamera Group of companies drilled one well in the Gulf of Manner to a depth of 3778.3 metres.

(b) Oil and gas have been discovered by ONGC on 2 structures in Gujarat, on land, and one structure in the Bombay High off-shore area during the year.

**Proposal to make the electoral rolls a basic document**

367. SHRI VITHAL GADGIL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Election Commission is considering a proposal to make the electoral rolls a basic document to serve as a national register; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI NARSINGH YADAV): (a) The Election Commission has such a proposal under consideration.

(b) The proposal mainly relates to keeping the electoral rolls up-to-date, so as to serve as a national register and is in the preliminary stage of consideration.