

- (3) A separate Notice Section has been set up for prompt despatch of notices. The first service is being effected by registered post.
- (4) Cases raising similar points are grouped together and posted before the same Judge or Bench.
- (5) Chief Justice makes a close and frequent study of pendency of cases and gives directions to expedite disposal.

Oil exploration on the East Coast

576. SHRI NARASINGHA PRASAD NANDA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to conduct surveys for the exploration of oil in the East Coast especially near Gopalpur in Orissa;
- (b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI) : (a) and (b) Semi-detailed seismic surveys have been carried out in the East Coast in the Orissa-Bengal basin and the Cauvery basin. The former was conducted under a production sharing contract with Carlsberg-Nato-mas Group and the latter with the Asamera Group. Additionally seismic surveys are now being carried out by Asamera Group off the coast of Tamilnadu. There is no proposal for conducting exploratory surveys in other parts of the East coast in the immediate future. Gopalpur town is situated on Metamorphic rocks bearing no oil and hence no geological—geophysical—geochemical studies have been carried out in that area.

Cases Pending with the M.R.T.P. Commission

577. SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to

state the number of cases which are pending at present before the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission for violating the provisions of the M.R.T.P. Act.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA) : As on 31st July, 1976, one case of monopolistic trade practice inquiry and 94 cases of restrictive trade practice inquiries instituted by the M.R.T.P. Commission were pending before it.

Setting up a committee for restructuring of Railway freights and fares

578. SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government have taken any decision for setting up a high power expert committee for restructuring the railway freights and fares; and
- (b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SARDAR BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Government have decided in principle to the appointment of a Committee in due course to examine the freight and fare structure on the Railways.

Abolition of Brand Names of Drugs

579. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Organisation of the Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) has started a wide spread campaign against proposed abolition of brand names of drugs;
- (b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and