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Seismic Surveys along Kerala Cost

*451. SHRI BHOLA PRASAD SHRI S. KUMARAN:
DR. Z. A. AHMAD:
SHRI B. D. BARMAN:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
RAHA:

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

(a) whether it is fact that a Russian vessel named 'Akademic Archangelski' made seismic surveys of oil prospects along the Kerala coast;

- (b) if so, what are the results thereof; and
- (c) whether Government propose to undertake exploration operations along the Kerala coast?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): (a) Yes Sir, in 1964.

(b) It would not be in public interest to disclose the results of the seismic surveys conducted by the Soviet Seismic Party.

(c) There is no proposal for taking up oil exploration in the Kerala offshore areas immediately.

Filling up of cleaners' posts in Bandamunda diesel shed

- *452. SHRI L. MAHAPATRO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether some vacancies of cleaners in Bandamunda diesel shed in Chakradharpur division of the South Eastern Railway have been filled up during May and June 1974 in contravention of the rules laid down for such employment;
- (b) if so, what are the details of such irregular appointments;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the services of persons so appointed are being terminated; and
- (d) what steps have been or are being taken to have the vacancies filled up in accordance with the rules and procedures laid down for the purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (c) With a view to maintain the train services during the strike period, in May, 1974 about 40 persons were appointed as cleaners on ad-hoc basis with the approval of the competent authority. Later on in the screening tests 10 of them were not found suitable and as such their services have been terminated.

(d) The Employment Exchange, Rourkela has been requested to forward names of suitable candidates for screening/suitability tests.

Ceiling on withdrawal by companies on account of remuneration

*453. SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA: (SHRI I Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE No, Sir.

AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a statement made recently by a Joint Secretary in the Department of Company Affairs regarding job switch to circumvent law:
- (b) if so, the details of the representations received by Government regarding ceiling on the maximum money that managements could withdraw from their companies in the guise of remuneration: and
- (c) what action is being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The U.P. Shareholders Association has, in a representation dated July 15, 1974 suggested certain amendments "to curb the evils by the unscrupulous managements". This representation is under consideration.

Suburban rail services in Bombay

*454. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: SHRI LOKANATH MISRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the inadequacy of suburban rail services in Bombay has resulted in the death of a number of passengers due to suffocation;
- (b) if so, the number of such deaths during the last two years; and
- (c) what steps have been taken by Government to improve the suburban rail services in Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) and (b) No. Sir.