

and (b). The Oil India Ltd. will make a reconnaissance and planning during the year 1971-72 and begin construction work in the year 1972-73. Drilling on the first well at Kharsang will begin in 1973 and for the second well in NEFA in 1973-74.

(c) The estimated expenditure on these two wells is Rs. 331 lakhs.

194. [Transferred to the 1st June, 1971]

ANTI-INDIA BROADCASTS BY CHINA

195. SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/^{f^j} be pleased to state :

(a) whether China has restarted anti-Indian broadcasts after a lapse of few months; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative whether it is a fact that these anti-Indian broadcasts have been restarted after the visit of President Yahya Khan of Pakistan to China ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/
SHRISURENDRA

PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). The frequency and intensity of China's anti-Indian broadcasts have varied over the last one year from time to time and not particularly after the visit of President Yahya Khan of Pakistan to China.

STRENGTHENING OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

196. SHRI N. K. KRISHNAN :
SHKI M. V. BHADRAM ;
DR. Z. A. AHMAD :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE/[^] ^{jj^ft} be pleased to state :

(a) whether the question of strengthening the defence research and development has been considered by Government ;

(b) if so, what decisions have been taken thereon ; and

(c) the additional expenditure likely to be incurred in this respect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (^{SHRI} ^{V-} ^{G>} SHUKLA) : (a) Strengthening of R&D effort is constantly kept under review by Government.

(b) Some of the major steps taken in this direction are as follows :

- (i) A Defence Research and Development Council functions under the Chairmanship of Defence Minister as the highest body for policy direction of the R & D effort. It has some eminent scientists from outside the Defence Research and Development Organisation as Members.
- (ii) To achieve greater coordination and decentralised control over the establishments/ laboratories Governing Councils for various groups of laboratories have been constituted.
- (iii) Specific programmes of research and development have been drawn up for the different areas of defence interest in consultation with User services and the Ministry of Defence. These are being formulated and progressed in the form of "Roll on Five Year Plan" which are reviewed and modified to the extent necessary every year.
- (iv) In order to give recognition to the growth of the research effort and to provide greater impetus to the defence R&D effort, the Scientific Adviser and DG R&D who is the head of the organisation, has been given the ex-officio status of a Secretary to the Government of India, thus placing the Defence R&D Organisation at par with the CSIR and AEC.
- (v) Considerable effort is directed towards enlarging the R&D base and build up of competence and facilities for undertaking the long-term tasks for the Services. Particular attention is being paid to some of the more sophisticated areas of Defence interest. A separate R&D Board for Aeronautics has been set up for direction and execution of the R&D tasks in the field of Aeronautics taking into account the facilities and expertise available on a national basis. In the field of Naval Science and Technology, a new laboratory is in the process of being set up. Similarly in

the field of Electronics, besides Defence R&D work in progress, an Electronic Commission has been set up at the National Level to formulate and coordinate the R&D and Production effort in the field of Electronics.

- (vi) The Defence scientists are being given training in the sophisticated areas of Defence technology both within the country and abroad. They are also being attached to the Services for short periods to help them in better understanding of the Users problems. They are given opportunities to attend symposia/seminars in India and abroad to enlarge their horizon of knowledge by exchange of ideas with other scientists working in similar disciplines.

- (c) The expenditure on Defence Research and Development is expected to be double in the next five years.

REVOLVING FUND FOR HOUSING

197. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING/ *fasfai sftT arraro *N* be pleased to* state :

- (a) whether the Government of India recently created Rs. 200 crores Revolving Fund for house building activities in the country ;

- (b) the progress of housing made since the creation of this fund and how much of this fund has already been spent ; and

- (c) whether attention of the Government of India in this regard has been invited to a report in the Motherland of the 22nd February, 1971, and reaction of the Government of India thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING/

(SHRI. K. GUJRAL) : (a) The recently constituted Housing and Urban Development Finance Corporation Limited is expected to raise a corpus of Rs. 200 crores over the next few years by raising long term loans from nationalised banks and public financing institutions such as the Unit Trust of India and the Life Insurance Corporation.

- (b) Of the various projects received from the State Governments for consideration, the Corporation has so far approved five projects for loan assistance, subject to certain conditions being fulfilled by the State Governments/ Housing Boards/Authorities concerned. The projects involve an estimated investment of about Rs. 62 crores with an initial seed capital requirement of Rs. 19.46 crores. Funds, however, have not yet been released against any of these schemes.

- (c) Yes. The Board has since been constituted and the first meeting of the regularly constituted Board has also been held on 24th March, 1971.

RISHIKESH ANTIBIOTICS FACTORY

198. SHRI S. C. ANGRE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/ *tf5Ttm 3fh: TSTOH n"?ft be pleased* to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that in May or June 1970 about 7 tonnes of streptomycin bulk was discovered to be having very low potency and that it caused a big loss to the Rishikesh Antibiotics factory ; and

- (b) if so, what action if any, was taken against the persons found guilty for the loss to the factory ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/ *^f^j gfc TXW ^*

(SHRI PRAKASHCHAND B. SETHI) : (a) The quantity of streptomycin which failed during June 1970 was 270 kgs (Base) against a gross production of 1631 kgs (Base). There was no failure due to low potency in May 1970.

- (b) The problem is under study by a team of specialists drawn from the National Laboratories and Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. as well as plant technologists and Soviet experts.

199. [*Transferred to the 7th June, 1971.*]

GOVERNMENT'S AGREEMENT WITH BURMAH STEEL, CALTEX AND ESSO

200. SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL: SHRI NIREN GHOSH : SHRI MONORANJAN ROY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND