

do not call for any modification in the forms used for demanding advance tax. While issuing a notice under section 210 of the Income-tax Act, the Income-tax Officer has to base the demand for advance tax on the total income last assessed. The assessee has the option to furnish his own estimate of his current income and the advance tax payable thereon and while making this estimate he may take into account the change made in the law by the latest Finance Act to the extent it is applicable to his case.

ACTION AGAINST COLLIERY OWNERS FOR NON-PAYMENT OF ROYALTY DUES

875. **SHRI KALYAN ROY :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news to the effect that a Colliery owner was held for not paying State dues as published in the 'Hindustan Standard,' Calcutta Daily on the 22nd April, 1970.

(b) whether Shri N.P. Bhowsingha, a colliery owner, was arrested for failure to pay royalty dues; if so, the amount of royalty due from him;

(c) what are the reasons for which similar action is not being taken against other colliery owners of West Bengal; and

(d) whether Government propose to take drastic action against those colliery owners and companies whose royalty dues are over rupees two lakhs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI NITI RAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The total amount of royalty dues from Shri Bhowsingha was Rs. 15,52,971.83 P. for the period from 15-4-55 to 31-12-66. He transferred his property attached under the Certificate proceedings and left the jurisdiction of the Certificate Officer and hence he was arrested.

(c) There is no information of similar illegal transfer of property by any other colliery with intention to avoid payment of dues and hence the question does not arise.

(d) Government will take appropriate action on the merits of each case.

ESTABLISHMENT OF FRESH OIL FIELDS BY ONGC

876. **SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIAMENON :**

SHRI ARJUN ARORA :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last five years the oil Natural Gas Commission has not been able to establish any fresh oil wells producing crude;

(b) if so, whether this country is likely to face a serious deficits in its crude oil requirements during the coming decade; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to avert such a situation ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (DR. TRIGUNA SEN) : (a) No. During the last five years the Commission has made discoveries of oil in Kathana, Dholka, Bakrol, Ahmedabad, Kadi and Subhasan in Gujarat. Oil has also been struck in Galeki in Assam.

(b) and (c) Against an estimated total refining capacity needed by 1975 of about 32 million tonnes, the total indigenous production of crude in that year is presently estimated at about 12 million tonnes from all sources.

With a view to narrow the gap between indigenous production of crude oil and its demand, the ONGC have formulated a Ten-Year Plan, to step up oil production to 14.5 million tonnes and gas production to 1500 million cubic metres per year by 1978-79. ONGC also proposes to undertake exploratory drilling in new areas like Tripura and Gulf of Cambay, which hold prospects of accumulations of oil and gas.

RUPEE BALANCES ACCUMULATING IN USSR ACCOUNTS

877. **CHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD**

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE

SHRI S. D. MISRA

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state what is the decision taken by the Government of U.S.S.R. on the proposal, made by the Indian Foreign Secretary, Shri T.N. Kaul, during the recent