

CONSULTATION OF EXPERT ADVICE IN MINERAL ON RESOURCES

III SHRI NAWAL KISHORE:

CHOUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD:
KUMARI SHANTA VASISHT:

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

(a) what steps are being taken with regard to the scheme to obtain consultancy service of experts of international fame in order to make a correct assessment of the mineral oil resources and to decide the maximum rate of exploitation of these resources;

(b) what are the names of the experts and to which country they belong to and by what period their advice so obtained would be available; and

(c) what would be the expenditure involved in (that venture?)

पेट्रोलियम तथा रसायन और खान तथा धातु मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री डी० आर० चव्हाण):
(क) से (ग) तेल तथा प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग के आसाम तथा गुजरात स्थित क्षेत्रों के तेल भण्डारों का अनुमान लगाने और उत्पादन की इष्टतम दरों का निर्धारण करने के लिये डॉलर्स (यू० एम. ए०) के मैसर्स डीगोल्फर एण्ड मैकनाटन का परामर्श लिये जाने का प्रस्ताव है।

कम्पनी के एक विशेषज्ञ, जो भारत आया था, के साथ हाल ही में हुई बातचीत के प्रकाश में विचारार्थ विषयों, अध्ययन के स्वरूप और आकार को अन्तिम रूप दिया जायेगा।

अध्ययन के वित्तीय लक्ष्यायों और अवधि का हिसाब बाद में लगाया जायेगा।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) to (c) It is

proposed to seek consultancy of M/s De Colver and MacNaughton of Dallas (U.S.A.) for estimating the oil reserves and determining the optimum rates of production from ONGC's fields in Assam and Gujarat.

The terms of reference, nature and magnitude of the study will be finalised in the light of discussions held recently with an expert of the Company who visited India.

The financial implications and duration of the study will be subsequently worked out.]

† [] English translation.

DIESEL ENGINE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

1844. SHRI A. C. KUIKUNJ: will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government propose to take to give financial assistance through nationalised banks to the depressed diesel engine manufacturing industry;

(b) whether it is a fact that slowing down of financial investment in the last three yearly plans has aggravated the conditions of depression in the diesel engine industry; and

(c) if so, what is the present position as regards availability of plan finance for the diesel engine manufacturing industry?

THE MINISTER OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) The nationalised banks are by and large providing necessary financial facilities to the manufacturer of diesel engines to enable them to hold their stocks as well as to maintain wherever possible their production programme. Difficulties faced by the industry at present stem mainly from factors other than lack of bank finance. A sympathetic view is being taken by banks so as not to aggravate the situation.

(b) The current depression in diesel engine industry is on account of factors like increasing pace of rural electrification resulting in substitution of electric power for diesel power and excess capacity in relation to current demand.

(c) Plan finance is not separately allocated for individual industries in the private sector.

SHORT SUPPLY OF EXPLOSIVES TO COAL MINES

1345. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN:
SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal Industry is facing a serious crisis due to severe shortage of explosives required for necessary mining operations;

(b) if so, the reasons for the shortage in hereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a number of coal mining units have stopped working as a result of the shortage of explosives; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to supply sufficient explosives to Coal Industry and start the mining operations in the closed units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI NITI RAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY):

(a) to (d) The annual requirement of the

explosives in the country is of the order of 33,000 tonnes and the present shortage works out to about 5,000 tonnes, which is mainly due to inadequacy of manufacturing capacity at present. In order to meet the deficit, arrangements have been made to import 1,500 tonnes of explosives of non-permissible variety from Poland. Besides, an additional amount of Rs. 50 lakhs has also been released by the Government to the State Trading Corporation of India to import a further quantity of 1,500 tonnes of explosives. Out of this, Rs. 12 lakh will be utilised to import 1,000 tonnes of ammonium nitrate and the balance of Rs. 38 lakhs for importing 1,000 tonnes of non-permissible explosives.

The situation deteriorated recently on account of the lightning strike from 1st to 13th August, 1970, in the Indian Explosives Factory at Gomia, on account of which a large number of workers were reported to have been laid off in Bengal/Bihar coalfields and that several coal mining units stopped working.

Both short-term and long-term measures are being taken to eliminate, in future, shortage of explosives in the mining industry. It is proposed to import the deficit quantity and also to create a buffer stock at a number of places. The study of the feasibility of setting up of an explosives factory in the public sector is being taken up.

STRIKE BY EMPLOYEES OF GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA, CALCUTTA

1346. SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL* SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of the Geological Survey of India in Calcutta are on a work-to-rule strike for the last two weeks;

(b) if so, what are their demands;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 42 striking employees have been suspended by the Director General of Geological Survey of India without an investigation or giving charge sheets;

(d) if so, the reasons for the same;

(e) whether Government have taken any action for consideration of the demands of the workers;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY): (a) A small group of Geological Survey of

India Staff in Calcutta, reported to belong to an unrecognised staff-body named Geological Survey of India Staff Union and purporting to be on work-to-rule strike, virtually abstained from work from 11-6-70 to [8-7-1970.

(b) The demands are—

(i) Immediate payment of honorarium to Drivers upto May, 1970;

(ii) Cancellation of orders of transfer of one Telephone Operator from one office in one building to another in Calcutta;

(iii) Declaration of stoppage of vindictive action against any Geological Survey of India Staff Union Office bearers;

(iv) Cancellation of order of transfer of one Assistant and another Store Keeper (Technical) from Calcutta to out-station offices of the Geological Survey of India;

(v) Exclusion of Draftsman Grade I cadre (Rs. 150—240) from the norm of inter-regional transfer.

(c) Forty-four employees had to be suspended. This was done after proper show cause notice followed by charge-sheets.

(d) The striking employees neglected their duties and indulged in lawless activities including criminal obstruction, intimidation and extreme acts of indiscipline.

(e) to (g) The strike has been called off on the basis of a compromise arrived at. The striking employees have expressed regret for their activities and have resumed work. Director General, Geological Survey of India has consequently withdrawn suspension orders. The demands of the employees are being examined by Government.

पेट्रोल तथा रसायन और खान तथा धातु विभाग में तकनीकी तथा गैर-तकनीकी कर्मचारी

1347. श्री राम सहाय : क्या पेट्रोल तथा रसायन और खान तथा धातु मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पेट्रोल तथा रसायन और खान तथा धातु विभाग में तकनीकी और गैर-तकनीकी कर्मचारियों का कोई अन्याय है, यदि हां, तो वह अन्याय क्या है ;

(ख) क्या उनके मंत्रालय को इस आशय की कोई शिकायत प्राप्त हुई है कि इन विभागों में गैर तकनीकी कर्मचारियों की संख्या आवश्यकता से अधिक है ; और