

EXPLORATION OF OIL IN ARABIAN SEA BELT

781. GHAUDHARY A. MOHAM MAD : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala to survey the Arabian Sea belt between Granganore and Alleppy area in Kerala for oil exploration; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) Yes. A request for further systematic probe along the shores of Kerala was received from the Government of Kerala in May, 1967.

(b) As the results obtained from the surveys carried out on the land and the adjoining offshore area were not favourable, it was not considered necessary to carry out further work in the offshore area in the near future.

IRRIGATION PROJECTS IN KERALA

782. SHRI B. V. ABDULLA KOYA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to take up any major or medium irrigation projects in Kerala during the Fourth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) The Fourth Plan of Kerala is yet to be finalised.

(b) Does not arise.

EMPLOYEES IN PUBLIC SECTOR

783. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the possibility of easier transfer of employees in the Public Sector undertakings; and

(b) if so, whether the recommendations of the Administrative Reforms Commission in this regard have been considered by Government ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI) : (a) and (b) The Administrative Reforms Commission in their Report as "Public Sector Undertakings" had *inter alia* recommended inter-unit transfers of personnel within the public undertakings. While considering this recommendation, Government decided that inter-changes of, personnel may, to the extent possible be effected with the consent of the managements of the concerned enterprises and all such inter-changes will have to be so brought about as not to interfere with their functions. It was also decided that the Bureau of Public Enterprises may assist in the matter of deployment of persons from one undertaking to another.

SUPPLY OF CREDIT TO VARIOUS SECTORS

784. SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount and the percentage of credit made available to Industry, Commerce, Co-operative Sectors and to Agriculture during the year 1968 through Banks and Public Finance Institutions in the country and;

(b) the amount and percentage of credit made available to companies and firms in India during the year 1968 having total assets :

(i) Upto Rs. 10 lakhs.

(ii) Above Rs. 10 lakhs but below Rs. 25 lakhs;

(iii) Above Rs. 25 lakhs ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

VARASGAON DAM

785. SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) when the Varasgaon Dam Project and Panshet Dam Project were finally approved;

(b) whether the projects have been completed; and