

higher rate as for priority industries will be admissible. In addition, the following reduction/abolition in export duty has been brought about with effect from 1st March, 1969 :—

Name of article	Effective rate	
	Present	Proposed
	Rs. per tonne	Rs. per tonne
Jute Manufactures—		
(i) Hessian cloth and bag excluding carpet backing	500	200
(ii) Wool sacks	250	Nil
(iii) Cotton bagging	200	Nil
(iv) Sacking (cloth and bags) not otherwise specified	250	150
(v) Certain types of yarn, twist, rope and twine and miscellaneous jute manufactures	250	150

(c) Does not arise.

SINKING OF OIL WELLS IN ASSAM

1082. SHRI G. BARBORA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that out of 80 Oil wells sunk by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in Upper Assam only 17 are now in operation and the rest have been closed ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Of the wells drilled by ONGC in Assam, 57 are Oil producers. Of these twenty three have so far been connected to the surface installation for oil production. Some surface installations are under construction and facilities for transportation of crude are also being negotiated. With these completed ONGC will be in a position to tap all the producer wells in the Lakwa-Rudrasagar Oil field.

ALLOTMENT OF LAND TO GROUP IV HOUSE BUILDING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

1083. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING, AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 1106 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th August, 1968 and state :

(a) the present position in regard to the acquisition proceedings of the land proposed to be allotted to Group IV House Building Co-operative Societies across the Jamuna ; and

(b) by what time the acquisition proceedings are likely to be over and physical possession of land actually given to these societies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING, AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B. S. MURTHY) : (a) and (b) Part of the land proposed to be allotted to Group IV Co-operative House Building Societies across the Yamuna has been acquired. In respect of the remaining land, the acquisition proceedings have been initiated but are being hampered by heavy unauthorised construction and stay orders issued by the courts in a number of cases. However, acquisition proceedings in respect of the vacant areas are expected to be finalised shortly.

The possession of the land is expected to be handed over to the Co-operative Societies about six months after the completion of the acquisition proceedings.