

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Seven.

(b) Five of the Pipelines—3 for gas, 1 for crude oil and 1 for products—will be laid from 1-9-1963 to 31-12-1964 for which a contract has been entered into with an Italian Firm SNAM.

The Designs and Engineering of the remaining two pipelines are still under examination.

#### NEW OILFIELDS IN ASSAM

29. SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new oilfields have been found in Assam and Gujarat; and

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the estimated production of oil will be doubled as a result of these new oilfields?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### OIL GAS FOUND AT IMPHAL

30. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT: Will the Minister of MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that highly combustible oil gas has been found gushing out for some days before May 30, 1963 at one of the places where bridge posts are under construction at Imphal in Manipur; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government sent any expert to make an

on the spot examination of the gas, and, if so, whether any report has been received from the expert?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND FUEL (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): A gas show was reported in a pit at Thumbuthong on the Imphal River.

(b) Yes, Sir. The sample of gas collected from the pit does not contain any hydrocarbon heavier than methane. A proposal for detailed geological examination of the area supplemented by geophysical survey is under examination of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

#### योग्य ग्रन्थ विद्यार्थियों को प्रोत्साहन

३१. श्री राम सहाय : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री य. बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उनके मंत्रालय ने ऐसे ग्रन्थ विद्यार्थियों को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिये कोई व्यवस्था की है जो विश्वविद्यालयों और कॉलेजों में शीर्ष स्थान प्राप्त करते हैं, और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो वह व्यवस्था क्या है ?

†[ENCOURAGEMENT TO MERITORIOUS BLIND STUDENTS]

31. SHRI RAM SAHAI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any provision has been made by his Ministry to encourage those blind students who secure top positions in Universities and colleges; and

(b) if so, what is that provision?]

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० कालू लाल श्रीवास्तव) :

(क) कोई विशेष व्यवस्था नहीं की गई है।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

†[THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) No special provision has been made.

(b) Does not arise.]

12 Noon

#### OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before we proceed to the next item on the Order Paper, I have a painful duty to perform. I refer to the passing away of Prof. Dr. Raghu Vira and Shri Pannalal Saraogi.

Prof. Dr. Raghu Vira was a prominent Member of the Rajya Sabha for a period of ten years from April 1952 to April 1962. Prior to that, he was a Member of the Constituent Assembly of India. Dr. Raghu Vira was a noted scholar, author and linguist. He had to his credit a large number of educational and research publications on a variety of subjects pertaining to politics, religion, ancient culture and science. His publications also included dictionaries and glossaries. He was the founder of the International Academy of Indian Culture. In December, 1962, he was elected President of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh. He was passionately devoted to his work, and whenever he spoke in the Rajya Sabha he put forward his point of view with vigour and earnestness. While on an election tour on May 14, 1963, he was involved in a serious motor car accident which led to his sudden and tragic death. In his passing away, the country has lost a leader of standing and a scholar of eminence.

Shri Pannalal Saraogi was a sitting Member of the Rajya Sabha, having

†[ ] English translation.

been elected from West Bengal in April, 1962. Before that he was a member of the West Bengal Legislative Council from 1952 to 1962, and was Secretary of the Congress Parliamentary Party, West Bengal, for two years. He was a well-known businessman and was the President of the Bharat Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta. Though he was a Member of this House only for a short period, he showed a keen awareness of his duties as a Member and took active part in the proceedings of the House. His passing away at the young age of 42 is a tragic misfortune.

I would request the Members to rise in their seats and observe one minute's silence as a mark of respect to the memory of Prof. Dr. Raghu Vira and Shri Saraogi.

[Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute.]

Secretary will convey to the members of the bereaved families the sense of grief and profound sympathy of this House.

#### STATEMENT RE STARRED QUESTION NO. 101 ANSWERED ON THE 25TH APRIL, 1963

#### SURPLUS STAFF IN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R. M. HAJARNAVIS): Sir, I regret to say there has been an inaccuracy in the reply which I gave to a supplementary to the Starred Question No. 101 in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th April, 1963. To the Question by Shri Khandekar whether the Government has received the report of the Committee, I said as follows:—

“Yes, Sir; their recommendations are being considered and certain further details have also to be ascertained.”