

miles of seismic surveys and drilled a number of shallow structural and deep holes.

(b) The assessment of the potential production of crude oil in the Gujarat region has not yet been made.

(c) 43 deep wells have been drilled of which 22 are oil wells, 7 are gas wells, 6 are dry and 8 are either being tested or are yet to be tested.

(d) The last well tested in Ankle-shwar has given oil and the last well in Cambay has given gas with condensate (light oil).

(e) Does not arise at this stage.

Aerial Ropeway over Rohtang Pass

*711. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether any tenders have been called by the Director General of Border Roads for the construction of Aerial Ropeway over Rohtang pass,

(b) if so, whether any one of them has been accepted and when will the work begin;

(c) what will be the cost of this Ropeway; and

(d) how many months in a year will it work?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) Tenders have been called for the construction of an aerial ropeway over the Rohtang Pass.

(b) No tender has been accepted finally so far.

(c) and (d). Cannot be stated at this stage.

Water Supply Scheme for Babina and Jhansi

*712. **Dr. Sushila Nayar:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that U.P. Government have approached the

Central Government to undertake a joint Water Supply Scheme to meet Babina and Jhansi military and civil requirements; and

(b) if so, the estimated expenditure on the scheme and the extent to which it is likely to be more economical than a scheme undertaken independently?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme has not yet been finalised. It is, however, roughly estimated to cost Rs. 202 lakhs. At this stage, it is not known to what extent it will be more economical than a scheme undertaken independently to cater to the water requirements of the Defence Services.

Steel Production

*713. **Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production in the steel plants has gone down due to inadequate supply of coal; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to remedy the situation?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). The monthly production figures do not support the statement that production has gone down. Nevertheless, Government constantly watch the problem of coal supplies to the steel plant, both in regard to quantity and quality.

Plants for Manufacture of Lubricants

*714. { **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been reached between Government and the Stanvac Ltd. to set up a plant for the manufacture of lubricants;