

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: They are less.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether there is any special reason why 120 per cent. of the advances given in 1958 are being made available against paddy and rice stock for the Orissa merchants?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: What advance?

Shri Tangamani: In respect of paddy and rice, so far as the Orissa State is concerned, now, the advance will be about 120 per cent. of what has been advanced in 1958. Is there any special reason why the percentage of advance has increased?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: So far as the paddy area is concerned, that is, mainly, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh, the need for allowing additional credit facilities is due to the fact that in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa, they are required to hold stock on behalf of Government.

Shri Tangamani: I wanted to know about Orissa.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Mostly, this is the guiding consideration on the basis of which the advances have been increased.

Shri Morarka: May I know whether any comparative study is made of how this expansion of credit against food-grains affects the prices of the food-grains?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Certainly, this is under constant study.

Shri Morarka: May I know where the data of the studies are available?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: The Reserve Bank is continuously making the inquiries and collecting the data; this is a continuing process.

Oil Survey in Saurashtra

+

*1375. { **Shri Tangamani:**
Shri A. K. Gopalan:

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

Oil and Natural Gas Commission has investigated the possibility of existence of oil in the Gohilwad District of Saurashtra?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (**Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha**): The region is being investigated by the Geologists of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

Shri Tangamani: The area that is mentioned in this question is No. 9 in the map entitled 'Distribution of Geological Field Parties in 1957-58'. May I know whether this party started the survey in 1957-58, and if so, how long they will take to complete the survey?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (**Shri K. D. Malaviya**): We started with a single party in 1957-58; now, as the systematic geological oil exploration goes ahead, we have increased the number of persons. Geological investigation is the first part of oil exploration, and we hope we shall soon finish it, and then go ahead with the second part of oil exploration, namely, geophysical investigation.

Shri Tangamani: In view of the fact that there is a possibility of the existence of an underground long belt of oil on the coastline, will this survey be completed and chemical examination of the subsoil made?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I wish I could accept the presumptions of my hon. friend. So far there are no data with us to presume as my hon. friend has done. But as our investigations proceed further, we shall be able to know more about it.

Shri Narayananketty Menon: Directly related to the exploration going on in different parts of the country is Government's proposal to revise the petroleum concession rules. May I know when Government propose to finalise these rules and make them known to Parliament?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The petroleum concession rules are in the last stage of finalisation.

Shri T. E. Vittal Rao: The hon. Minister has said that survey is being carried on by our geologists in this region. May I know the nature of the survey that is being conducted, whether it is aero-magnetic or any other type of survey?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: There are three processes of investigation for oil: first, geological; second geophysical and third, drilling. Geological investigations which include mapping all those things are well-nigh being completed for this area

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question

Shri Tangamani: May I ask one more question? It is about a specific place. Villagers are coming in deputation in connection with that

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have already called the next question. He will have another opportunity later

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research

*1378. **Shri Narasimhan:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state-

(a) the present procedure followed in placing information concerning the accounts and audit reports of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research before Parliament; and

(b) whether the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research will be converted into a statutory body?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) The accounts of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research as certified by the Comptroller and Auditor General together with the audit report thereon is forwarded annually by the Council to the Government of India and the latter causes the same to be laid before the Parliament.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Shri C. E. Narasimhan: Is it not a fact that the Public Accounts Com-

mittee have reported on this twice to the Government and reiterated their demand?

Shri Humayun Kabir: Is it about submission of the report? We have accepted and said that it will be done when we receive the report.

Shri C. E. Narasimhan: I am referring to part (b).

Shri Humayun Kabir: It is true that the Public Accounts Committee have reiterated that recommendation. The Governing Body of the CSIR, which is also an autonomous body, unanimously disagreed with it on two occasions. But as the recommendation has been reiterated by the Committee, we are placing it before the Governing Body at its next meeting on October 17.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether the working of this organisation has been reviewed by any departmental committee or any person appointed for the purpose? If so, what is the result of that review?

Shri Humayun Kabir: No review as such has been made, but annual reports of the CSIR are available. The Governing Body and Council meet to review the work of the laboratories and the Council

Election Petitions

+

*1379. { **Shri Hem Barua:**
Shri Nath Pai:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state

(a) the number of election petitions, appeals etc. still pending disposal in the High Courts and the Supreme Court beyond six months; and

(b) the specific reasons for this delay?

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Hajarnavis): (a) Arising out of election petitions, five appeals and one writ petition are at present pending before the Supreme Court and one writ petition