

(b) the quantity of halon gas likely to be produced ever years;

(c) the present requirements of halon gas.

(d) the countries from which India used to import halon gas in the past; and

(e) the amount of foreign exchange spent thereon during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals about 50 tonnes of halons are being produced per annum.

(c) as estimated by a Task Force the demand (un-restricted) of halons for 1990 was about 700 tonnes and in 1996 it is likely to be around 1400 tonnes.

(d) United Kingdom and Canada etc.

(e) Separate figures of value of import of halons are not available.

#### **Maharashtra - Karnataka Border Dispute**

\*153. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA  
GAVIT:  
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any fresh initiatives for resolving the Maharashtra-Karnataka boundary issue:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) to (c). The Government of India is of the view that this dispute has to be resolved by the State Governments concerned through bilateral discussion and mutual accommodation. The Central Government would be glad to extend all possible assistance to the two States towards achieving this goal.

[English]

#### **Hiring of Rigs for Oil Exploration**

\*154. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission hires a large number of rigs for oil exploration;

(b) if so, the number of rigs of the foreign companies hired and rent paid during each of the last three years;

(c) whether indigenous rigs are available in the country; and

(d) if not, the efforts made to manufacture rigs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92, 16, 12 and 6 rigs respectively were hired by ONGC from foreign companies and the amount paid as rent was Rs. 118 crores. Rs.

136 crores and Rs.93 crores respectively.

(c) and (d). *Some Indian companies like BHEL and Mazagon Docks Limited have the capacity to manufacture rigs.*

### **Hydrocarbon in West Bengal**

\*155. SHRI AMAL DATTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the hydrocarbon found in a location in West Bengal in April/May 1992 has been accepted as crude oil by the Indian Oil Corporation Limited;

(b) whether the extent of availability of hydrocarbon in the same location has been assessed;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal to continue/stepup exploration activities in the same or nearby locations/ areas;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the budget provisions made/proposed for the above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). During production testing of interval 4346-4349 m. of exploratory well Ichapur-1 in Nadia district of West Bengal, small quantities of condensate and gas were found which were not commercially viable. This well is still under drilling at 5497 m.

(d) to (f). ONGC has planned to drill another step-out well at Ichapur-2 and conduct 3-D Seismic Survey over the area and

has provided Rs. 21.60 crores in its budget for 1993-94 for the purpose.

### **Indigenous Medical System**

\*156. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are promoting indigenous medical systems like Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani;

(b) the percentage of funds spent on the purchase of Ayurvedic drugs during 1991-92;

(c) the number of Ayurvedica, Unani and Siddha practitioners working under the Union Government;

(d) whether the Government encourage research in Ayurvedic medicines; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About 5% of the expenditure on drugs in CGHS is on Ayurvedica medicines.

(c) 91 practitioners of Indian Systems of Medicine are working in the CGHS.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir The Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha, and the Indian Council for Medical Research besides educational institutions like Gujarat Ayurveda University Jamnagar. National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur and Banaras Hindu University etc. are being supported for research in Ayurveda.