

educational institutions. Airfares for the scholars, journey to and from the educational institutions abroad are also paid directly by the concerned Indian Missions or the Welfare Ministry as the case may be, to the airlines.

Oil and Natural Gas Reserves

* 377 . SHRI A . VENKATESH NAIK:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted surveys to find out oil and natural gas reserves in the country during 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the places where possibility of oil and natural gas reserves has been identified, State/ UT-wise; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken for its exploration?

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

(b) During the year 1993, ONGC and OIL have carried out a total of 29539 SLK and 3659 GLK of 2-D seismic surveys and 753 Sq.KM/SSK of 3-D seismic surveys in the onland part and 32,507 LK of 2-D seismic surveys and 2331 LK of 3-D seismic surveys in the offshore part.

(c) and (d). After the above seismic data is acquired it will be processed and interpreted to identify suitable locations for exploratory drilling. This is an on going process and each prospect is evaluated on its merits.

Eradication of Leprosy

378 . SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHU-
DDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Health Organisation has formulated a time bound programme for eradication of leprosy from the entire world;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action plan drawn by WHO for eradication of leprosy from India; and

(d) the assistance proposed to be provided to India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) WHO has set a goal to achieve elimination of leprosy by the year 2000 AD by reducing the incidence to less than 1 per 10,000 population.

(c) Government of India, not WHO, have drawn up an action plan for eradication of Leprosy.

(d) Under WHO country budget a provision of US \$20710 has been made for National Leprosy Eradication programme for biennium 1994-1995.

[*Translation*]

Coking Coal

*379 . SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN: