5

(vi) A review of the deployment of BSF in border areas is being constantly done.

STATEMENT

On the morning of 14th September, 1995, a special BSF search party seized the following items of arms/ammunition in area of BP No. 42/2/Ex-BOP Ranian (Punjab border) :

| Pistol | 8 | Nos. |
|--------------|-----|-------|
| Mag. | 16 | Nos. |
| Ammunition | 660 | Rds. |
| RDX | 10 | Kgs. |
| Cordex | 10 | Mtrs. |
| Fuze | 10 | Nos. |
| Time Pencils | 5 | Nos. |
| Spool | 4 | Nos. |
| Tape Safety | 2 | Nos. |
| Safety Pin | 3 | Nos. |
| Kit Box | 2 | Nos. |
| Match Box | 4 | Nos. |

Mail Bags

*162. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that thousands of mail bags with unsorted letters have been lying in Delhi RMS offices for the last few months:
 - (b) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures being taken for the speedy sorting and delivery of these letters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c). There was hold-up of unopened mails bags and unprocessed mail in Delhi when the Railway Mail Service Staff of Delhi Postal Circle resorted to refusal to perform Overtime duty from October 17, 1995. The cause for the the agitation was non-payment of pending Overtime bills, which was due to nonavailability of funds for the purpose. As a result of the agitation, there was disruption to mail processing and mail movement. It was explained to the leaders of the Staff Unions that the delay in payment of pending Overtime alllowances bills was a problem everywhere in the Department and was beyond the control of the Department. They were assured that when additional funds were allocated in the Revised Grant, pending claims would be paid to the extent of funds permitting. Following this assurance, Staff Unions called off the agitation on November 3, 1995. Meanwhile, accumulated and arriving mails were being cleared to the extent possible by special arrangements. After the agitations was called off, efforts were futher intensified to clear accumulated mail. The position is now nearly normal.

Written Answers

[Translation]

Production of Crude Oil

- *163. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :
- (a) the percentage of domestic demand of oil being met by the production within the country;
 - (b) the quantum of oil being imported;
- (c) the efforts being made by the Government to increase the production of oil in the country and the success achieved so far in this regard; and
- (d) the time by which India is likely to become self-sufficient in production of crude oil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Around 50% of the domestic demand of petroleum products will be met from indigenous production of crude oll in the current year.

- (b) Import of crude oil during the current year is estimated to be 25.475 MMT.
- (c) Measures taken by the Government to increase crude oil production include :
 - (1) Development of new fields and additional development of existing fields.
 - (2) Implementation of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) schemes and extending some of the EOR schemes from pilot scale to full scale field application.
 - (3) Implementation of specialised technologies such as Extended Reach Drilling, Horizontal and drain hole drilling.
 - (4) Offering small and medium sized fields for development by the private sector, on its own and through joint ventures with the national oil companies.

As a result of the above measures the declining trend in the crude oil production was arrested in 1992-93 and the production has increased steadily since then.

(d) Looking at the pace at which demand is increasing, self-sufficiency in crude production will require the discovery of large new fields.