

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent reports regarding US's plan to select new targets for its arsenal of nuclear weapons after the collapse of Soviet Union, with India becoming one of such possible targets, and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Government are aware of reports that military sites in a number of countries including India can become possible targets of US strategic nuclear missiles.

(b) Government are monitoring reports on the subject and will take all necessary measures to safeguard India's security.

Pulses Board

7730. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has requested the Union Government for the creation of a Pulses Board on the lines of the Spices Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No such proposal has been received in the Ministry.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Recommendations of Committee on Production of Oil at Bombay High

7731. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since examined the recommendations of the Committee on the production of oil in the Bombay High;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). The Committee's report has been examined. Its conclusions include, inter-alia, that the levels of withdrawal of crude oil have deviated from these recommended by the development schemes and that while such deviation was justified according to accepted industry practices, they were perhaps not justified with regard to the point of view of maintenance of reservoir health; that periods of over-exploitation with regard to delays in implementation of pressure maintenance schemes have contributed to the incidence of high gas oil ratios etc. but that there is no unequivocal evidence to indicate that losses in the production of exploitable reserves have resulted from any of these factors. It has, however, opined that with suitable steps the ultimate recovery expectations from the Bombay High reservoir may be achieved and even improved upon.

[*English*]

Legislation to Ban Strikes in Essential Services

7732. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: