

(b) Some broad features of the scheme as recommended by the Committee are as under:—

(1) Maintaining regular liaison with the representatives of the other Oil Companies with a view to ascertaining at least once every month, and more frequently whenever and wherever necessary the trend in supply and demand position for the entire State/Centrally administered area product-wise and location-wise. Wherever there have been shortfalls in availability to analyse reasons for the same and to report results thereof to all concerned. Wherever shortages are apprehended owing to delays in despatch sudden spurts in demand and any other similar factor the Lead Company should take timely and appropriate action to arrange for the replenishment of supplies from available alternative sources.

(2) Where despite all necessary action there are contingencies of shortages arising the Lead Company should suitably inform the State Government and assist in the formulation of plans for the equitable distribution of products so that essential and priority needs continue to be met.

(3) To pool information available with the field staff of all the Oil Companies in regard to trade practices and particularly in regard to malpractices, if any, so that whenever necessary the assistance of the appropriate State authorities can be obtained. In this regard, even while the administering of the Essential Commodities Act is the responsibility of the State Government, the Oil Companies should, in view of the peculiar characteristics of the Oil Industry, give all possible assistance to the State Government and their agencies in eliminating malpractices like under-weightment, adulteration, over-charging, cornering of stocks of any other form of harassment to the customers.

(4) To give suitable guidance to the sub-committees functioning at the District or the Taluka levels and also to obtain constant feed-back from these committees in regard to their local experiences.

(c) The scheme recommended by the Damle Committee is not likely to have any financial impact on the distribution of products by the Oil Companies.

#### O&NGC Agreement with Rotterdam Dockyard Ltd. for Pipe laying Barge

2168 SHRI RAM PRAKASH Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has signed a contract with the Rotterdam Dockyard Limited for the purchase of pipe laying barge; and

(b) if so, the total expenditure involved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI) (a) Yes Sir It will be a derrick-cum-pipe laying barge

(b) Rs 21.74 crores approximately

#### Survey for Pipeline route from Bombay High to Coast

2169 SHRI RAM PRAKASH Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state

(a) whether National Institute of Oceanography, Goa has completed the survey of pipeline route from Bombay High Offshore oil field to the Bombay Coast, and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI) (a)