

**Attainment of Self-Reliance in
Petroleum Products**

276. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state as to what concrete steps Government have so far taken or propose to take in the matter of attaining self-reliance in petroleum and petroleum-products?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): Geological and geophysical surveys have been intensified. Apart from continuing drilling operations and production of crude oil in Assam and Gujarat, exploratory drilling is being undertaken at a number of locations in other on-shore areas. In the offshore areas, Bombay High and North Bassin fields are being developed at a fast pace. Exploratory wells are being drilled in other offshore structures also. Production of indigenous crude oil which was 7.2 million tonnes per annum at the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan is expected to go up to over 14 million tonnes per annum in 1978-79. Concerted action is being taken to raise the refining capacity in the country which will increase from 24 mtpa to over 31 mtpa during the same period. Steps are also being taken to contain and curb the consumption of petroleum products.

**Drilling by O. & N. G. C. and Foreign
Firms**

277. SHRI S. G. MURUGAIYAN:
SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the places where the drilling to find oil is in progress at present both by Oil and Natural Gas Commission and the foreign oil companies;

(b) whether drilling at some places has recently been stopped by certain foreign firms; and

(c) if so, the facts and reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) By the Oil & Natural Gas Commission on-shore in Gujarat, Assam, West Bengal, Tripura, Himachal Pradesh and in offshore in the Arabian sea. The Asamera Group of Canada is drilling in the Gulf of Mannar.

(b) and (c). There has been no drilling by the foreign contractors in the Kutch and Bengal-Orissa basins since end of January 1976 and end of April 1976 respectively. The exploratory wells drilled there did not give evidence of any commercial accumulation of hydrocarbons.

**Proposal to amend Muslim Personal
Law**

278. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce changes in the Muslim Personal Law—especially the aspects relating to marriage and divorce; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) There is, at present, no proposal before the Government to introduce changes in the Muslim Personal Law.

(b) Does not arise.

**Issue of Show Cause Notice to Pfizer
Company**

279. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND