

duction platform in Bombay High and ONGC proposes to install a third production platform there before the monsoon of 1979. It would be capable of processing about 160,000 barrels of oil per day. It is estimated to cost Rs 43 crores approximately.

(c) and (d) The decision to install the aforesaid third production platform has been taken only recently of the Oil & Natural Gas Commission and the Commission have since floated tenders for its fabrication and installation. The closing date for the receipt of tenders is September 30, 1977.

Amount spent on oil exploration in Tripura

1993 SHRI M RAM GOPAL REDDY Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether huge amount has been spent on oil exploration in Tripura without any fruitful results and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H N BAHUGUNA) (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha

Identity cards for voters

1994 SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether suggestions have been received to provide identity cards to voters so as to avoid election malpractices, and

(b) the reaction of the Election Commission thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN) (a) A few

suggestions have been received by the Election Commission in this behalf

(b) The scheme of issue of photographed identity cards was tried in a bye-election held from the Calcutta South-West Parliamentary constituency held in 1959. In spite of strenuous efforts spread over a period of ten months, only 2,13,600 electors out of a total of 3,42,000 electors could be effectively photographed. Attached identity cards with photographed attached could thereafter be issued only to 2,10,000. The scheme was tried on an experimental basis. Experience at that time showed that the system was prohibitively costly and administratively difficult to operate. The Election Commission are not in favour of the scheme.

Problems raised by Aurangabad (Division) Industries Association

1995 DR BAPU KALDATE Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether Aurangabad (Division) Industries Association had sent a letter on 21st April, 1977 about the problems of railways in development of industries in Marathwada a backward region of Maharashtra, and

(b) what steps Government intend to take to solve the problems of developing industries in that area?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF MADHU DANDAVATE) (a) and (b) Yes. The Association have requested for construction of the following lines —

- (1) Conversion of Manmad-Mudkhed section from MG to BG
- (2) Conversion of Kurduwadi-Latur narrow gauge line and extension of the line to Latur Road
- (3) Construction of a new line from Aurangabad to Sholapur via Bhir and Osmanabad