

(a) whether China has deployed submarines in the Indian Ocean ;

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

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to keep our Navy on alert to meet any eventuality ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO) : (a) Government have no information as to whether China has deployed submarines in the Indian Ocean.

(b) Government have been in favour of the Indian Ocean being maintained as a zone of peace and have taken several diplomatic initiatives to this end.

(c) The Government of India keep all developments having a bearing on the country's security under constant observation, with a view to taking appropriate measures from time to time to maintain full defence preparedness. The Indian Navy is being constantly re-equipped, modernised and developed in keeping with the emerging threat perceptions.

Contract with U.S. Company for Oil Exploration in Saurashtra

4073. **SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a U.S. Company which had entered into contract for five years for all exploration in Saurashtra, has decided to quit the contract ;

(b) if so, whether such a course is permissible under the provisions of the contract ;

(c) the amounts of money so far paid to the American Company ;

(d) whether it is in accordance with the terms of the contract ;

(e) whether any excess payment has been made ;

(f) whether there is any clause in the agreement for claiming damages from the American Company for early closure of the contract ; and

(g) if so, the steps Government propose to take to implement the various clauses of the contract with this company ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b) : The contract was for a period of three years and could be extended for a further period of two years at the option of contractor viz. Chevron Oil Company, which it did not exercise.

(c) None.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) Since no discovery was made and the company did not opt for further exploration, contract automatically terminated on the expiry of three years.

High Court Judges

4074. **SHRI D. K. NAIKAR :** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of High Court Judges in the country, State-wise ; and

(b) how many of them belong to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a)

The requisite information showing the position as on 1.4.1985 is given in the attached statement.

(b) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Sl. No.	High Court	Number of Judges in position as on 1.4.1985
1.	Allahaban	51
2.	Andhra Pradesh	20
3.	Bombay	36
4.	Calcutta	36
5.	Delhi	25
6.	Gauhati	7
7.	Gujarat	18
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6
10.	Karnataka	23
11.	Kerala	16
12.	Madhya Pradesh	27
13.	Madras	19
14.	Orissa	10
15.	Patna	32
16.	Punjab and Haryana	17
17.	Rajasthan	14
18.	Sikkim	2
Total		365

New Telephone and Telex Exchanges

4075. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI NARAIN
CHOUBEY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new telephones, trunk and telex exchanges commissioned in Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras Pune and Nagpur in 1983, 1984 and 1985 (upto 1 March, 1985) ;

(b) whether the expenditure in connection with the commissioning of new Exahanges during that period is considered as plan expenditure ;

(c) whether any posts of telephone operators, technicians, junior engineers, auto exchange assistants, wiremen, linemen and mazdoor and other class 'D' workmen were sanctioned for the above new exchanges in each city ; and

(d) if so, the category-wise, Exchange-wise and year-wise details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Required information is given in Statement-I attached.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) : The details of staff sanctioned category-wise and exchange-wise are as shown in Statement-II attached.