

were on strike with effect from 7th of November, 1989 to the 6th of December, 1989.

(b) The Association neither gave requisite notice nor put forward any specific demand before the management of Indian Airlines prior to their resorting to the strike. Efforts were made to make the Aircraft Engineers call off their strike both through direct contact with the office bearers of the Association and through conciliation before the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central).

(c) The estimated loss of profit during the period of strike works out to approximately Rs. 8.60 crores.

#### **Exploration for Gas in Rajasthan**

83. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take up fresh areas for exploration of gas in some of regions of Rajasthan during the Eighth Plan period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Oil and Natural Gas Commission plans to take up some areas in Shahgarh sub-basin, Miajalar sub-basin and Jaisalmer arch for exploration in VIIIth Plan period in Rajasthan.

In addition to intensifying exploratory drilling in the already explored area of Jaisalmer basin Oil India Ltd. also proposes to take up exploratory drilling in the Bikaner-Nagaur Basin in Rajasthan during VIIIth Plan period. This is, however, subject to the programmes being finally included in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

#### **Petroleum Prices**

84. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether oil companies have demanded that for calculating petroleum prices, their capital base should be arrived at after taking into account the requirements of modernisation, replacement and expansion; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). The Oil Industry Finance Secretariat on behalf of the refining and marketing oil companies has submitted an AIDE-MEMOIRE to the Government on incentives to the Oil Industry with the request that the same be examined by the Oil Price Review Committee. The Aide—Momoire inter-alia requests that in computing return on investment, the replacement cost of fair current value should be adopted in lieu of the historical cost while valuing the assets of oil companies in order to provide sufficient return. It has also been requested that compensation for the repairs may be allowed to refineries at an appropriate rate on the replacement cost of refineries, as, presently there is no mechanism to allow compensation for large scale replacement and renewals. The AIDE—MEMOIRE has been referred to the Oil Price Review Committee as per the request made therein.

#### **Oil Refinery and Petro-Chemical Complex at Mangalore**

85. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:  
SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA  
NARASIMHARAJA  
WADIYAR: