

[*Translation*]

### **Freedom Fighters**

1158. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since identified those members of the British Indian Army who had revolted against the British rule:

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to accord the status of freedom fighters to those soldiers; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c). Government have received some representations for grant of freedom fighters pension to such of the persons who, while serving in different regiments/units of the British Indian Army, had mutinied against the British authorities. The matter is under active consideration of the Government.

[*English*]

### **Mahanadi Oil Exploration Project**

1159. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to revive the Mahanadi Oil Exploration Project which was started on the East Coast;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for the revival of the Projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). Two blocks in Orissa have been offered for exploration by Indian and foreign oil companies in the Sixth round of bidding. The last date for receipt of bids is 31.12.1993.

### **Deaths in Tihar Jail**

1160. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of deaths of undertrials in Tihar Jail during this current year;

(b) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the action taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has reported that 29 undertrials died during the current year (upto 3rd Dec. 93).

(b) to (d). Magisterial inquests were initiated in all these cases. Inquest proceedings have already been completed in 21 cases and no foul play has been detected.