

have requested the Government to increase the crude oil prices;

(b) if so, the details of the reasons put forward by them for increase in prices; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). The prices of crude oil have been revised from Rs. 1021/MT to Rs. 1506/MT effective 16.9.92 on the representations of ONGC and Oil India.

Indo-Russia Agreement to Deal with Terrorism

1164. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Russia have signed any agreement on cooperation between the two countries in dealing with terrorism, crime, drug trafficking and ensuring protection of the rights and freedom of the citizens in October, 1993; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the Agreement are to develop interaction in the field of combating crime against life, freedom, dignity of the person and property and to combat organised and international crime, terrorist activities; to

combat illicit operations with weapons, ammunition, explosives, toxic substances and radioactive materials; to combat illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances; to combat manufacture and sale of forged documents, money and securities; to combat crimes connected with economic activities; to combat illicit operations with precious stones and metals; prevention of illegal migration as well as illicit stay of persons and to combat illicit trade etc.

Irrigation Projects

1166. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated cost and the fund allocated by the Union Government for the Mahanadi-Chitrotpalla and Mahanadi Delta Irrigation Projects in Orissa;

(b) the progress made in the execution of these projects; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to expedite the construction of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (c). Mahanadi Chitrotpala project estimated to cost Rs. 93.07 crores was taken up during Annual plan 1990-91 and the anticipated expenditure till the end of 3/93 is Rs. 12.12 crores. An outlay of Rs. 87 crores has been approved for VIII plan. The project is scheduled for completion during the VIII Plan.

Mahanadi Irrigation Delta Project estimated to cost Rs. 21.05 crores has

been nearly completed and the anticipated expenditure till the end of 3/93 is Rs. 19.99 crores. VIII Plan outlay is Rs. 3 crores.

Arms and Ammunition

1167. SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:

PROF. SAVITHRI
LAKSHMANAN:

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a red alert was declared following information that a Canadian ship with arms and ammunition was heading towards India in September, 1993;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the ship has been located by the Indian authorities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (e) Following reports about the possibility of a Canadian ship with a consignment of explosives moving towards the southern part of the country, the Intelligence Agencies had appropriately alerted the concerned state governments and other agencies. However, no such ship was located.

Hand Grenades

1168. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan-manufactured hand grenades were found at places of blast in Bombay and elsewhere a few months back; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b), Investigations have revealed that the grenades found at the site of bomb blasts at Bombay originated from Pakistan. A number of plastic hand grenades with marking 'Arges', (an Austrian firm) U/P and 046/83 have been recovered. The Austrian authorities have indicated to the Government of India that between 1969 and 1971, machine and machine tools required for the production of hand grenades were sold to Akhtar and Hoffmann in Pakistan by the firm Ulbrichts/Austria, also known as Arges. From the construction the content and inscription of the grenades and fuses, it is apparent that the hand grenades were made from the machine and tools sold to Pakistan.

[Translation]

Minorities Commission

1169. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI
ASHRAF FATMI :

SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH
YADAV :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of recommendations sent by the Minorities Commission to the Government during each of the last three years; and