

(CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). One Geophysical party was deployed in the Haldibari - Kamlabari area on the north bank of river Brahmaputra (Assam) in the field season 1986-87. Interpretation of the seismic data has not brought out any feature interesting from hydrocarbon exploration point of view.

Bomb Disposal SQUADS

8525. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to create separate specialised bomb detection and disposal squads;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any directives have been issued to the State Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, whether the State Governments have observed such directives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Bomb Detection and Disposal Squads are already available with the some Central Para-Military Forces.

(c) and (d). The Central Government have advised all the State Government to set up their Bomb Detection and Disposal Squads. many State Government are reported to have already done so

Hospitals in Delhi

852. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government hospitals in Delhi are ill maintained and there is general fall in standards; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the conditions in the Government hospital in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). The functioning of Government hospitals is periodically reviewed and facilities are upgraded within the overall availability of resources.

Official Secrets Act

8527. MAJ GEN (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the Official Secrets Act, 1923;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). There have been various suggestions / recommendations for amending the Official Secrets Act, 1923. However, as this matter is both complex and sensitive the issues Concerned require very careful and through analysis and examination and it is therefore, not possible to furnish details and the exact time frame for formulating the views in the matter.

Directorate General of Hydrocarbons Sector

8528. DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up Directorate General of Hydrocarbons Sector;

(b) if so, the main objectives for setting it up and