

sufficient quantity of all essential items in the branches to ensure their availability throughout the month?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) : No, Sir. Super Bazar Delhi has informed that it makes every effort to ensure availability of all essential consumer goods in all their branches. However, as the Super Bazar is dealing in a very large number of items, the possibility of some items being out of stock during the first week of the month cannot be ruled out, on account of non-availability of a particular product with the manufacturers or the product being in short supply, or because the supply made by the suppliers is not found to be of the required quality.

(c) In order to ensure the availability of all essential consumer items in the branches, a system of time schedule for branches for placing weekly indents on the Regional Distribution Centres including emergent indents for immediate supplies exists. The General Manager holds weekly meetings to review the stock position of important items at the supply centres; to identify stock-outs of the items and to take remedial steps. The Inspecting Officers of the Super Bazar on their regular weekly visits to the branches report about the stock-out of important items for arranging their immediate supply.

Setting up of Integrated Communication Network by ONGC

8373. SHRI SWAMI PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission proposes to set up integrated communication network;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the objectives for this initiative and the amount proposed to be spent on this project; and

(d) the technology proposed to be adopted for this network and by what time this will start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) ONGC proposes to set up inter regional and intra-regional communication network to cater to VOICE, TELEPRINTER, Faksimile and Data Traffic needs of ONGC.

(c) The project is intended to provide live operational data for management decisions and is expected to cost about Rs. 40 crores.

(d) Most of the systems required are procured indigenously. The project is expected to be commissioned during 1987-89.

Indigenisation of Offshore Drilling Operations

8374. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by Government to indigenise offshore drilling operations;

(b) the particulars of the Indian firms with their foreign collaborators, if any, approved for contract drilling and the areas assigned to each one of them; and

(c) the amount of charter hire payable in 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) With a view to promoting indigenisation of offshore drilling services Government have so far approved the formation of eight joint venture companies for this purpose.