

(b) prospects of further exploration;

(c) is there any proposal under consideration for off-shore exploration in the Bay of Bengal; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA):**

(a) During the period 1970—77 exploratory surveys and drilling operations in various parts of West Bengal were continued by the ONGC. In addition to putting in 2 party-years of geological field work, 27 party-years of seismic and 3 party-years of gravity magnetic surveys, the ONGC conducted drilling operations on three structures, namely, Bakultala, Galsi and Diamond Harbour. One well drilled each on Bakultala and Galsi structures did not indicate the presence of any oil or gas. A second well drilled on the Galsi structure is currently under production testing. Drilling of the first well at Diamond Harbour is also in progress.

(b) Besides exploring for deeper prospects, ONGC plans to continue seismic work in the Marshy Sundarban areas, and the Hinge zone areas of the Bengal basin.

(c) No, Sir. Not for the present.

(d) The data so far collected from geophysical surveys and off-shore drilling in the area are presently under analysis by the ONGC and future programme will depend upon the results of these studies.

**Report by Indian Medical Association on IDPL and HAL Pimpri Plants**

991. **SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:**

**SHRI AGHAN SINGH THAKUR:**

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Medical Association has submitted its report with regard to its recent visit to the I.D.P.L. plants at Rishikesh, Hyderabad and Madras and the HAL plant at Pimpri; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereon?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA):**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1647/78].

**Interest by Chinese experts in coal based fertilizer plants in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa**

992. **SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's coal based fertilizer plants in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa have brought forth enquiries from foreign countries with huge coal deposits;

(b) if so, whether the latest are the Chinese from where a group of fertilizer experts recently visited these plants;

(c) whether these experts held discussion with the Union Government;

(d) if so, whether any agreement has been signed in this regard;

(e) to what extent these two plants have made progress; and

(f) when the third plant is likely to be set up?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA):** (a) and (b). Brazil, Turkey