

Legislatures, other VIPs, foreign dignitaries, cases of hardships, commercial contacts, Government Organisations / Institutions etc.

According to oil companies, the registration of names for granting Liquefied Petroleum Gas (cooking gas) connections had been discouraged in certain areas by them in view of the continued shortages of the product compared to its demand.

The oil companies have been advised to start fresh registrations, wherever necessary, keeping in view the possibilities of enrolment of new customers on a significant scale from about 1980, when substantial quantities of cooking gas will start becoming available.

#### Efforts to find Oil off The Kerala Coast

4909. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to intensify efforts to find out oil off the Kerala Coast is under consideration of the Government in near future ; and

(b) if so, details therein and steps that have already been taken or proposed to be taken in this regard during the coming year?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H.N. BAHUGUNA) : (a) and (b). ONGC had drilled an exploratory well 60 Kms. north-west of Cochin during April-May, 1978. This well was drilled to a depth of 1755 metres. However, as no oil or gas was found, the drilling was suspended.

Further exploration programme in the area will depend upon the interpretation of the data obtained from this well and the seismic data of the area collected earlier.

#### Removal of Dr. R.R. Jaipuria from Management of Swadeshi Cotton Mills

4910. SHRI K. MALLANNA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. R.R. Jaipuria who is responsible for management of Swadeshi Cotton Mills Company Limited has since been removed from that post ;

(b) if so, what are the details and since when he ceased to be Managing Director ; and

(c) what Government propose to do to save Swadeshi Mining and Manufacturing Company Limited (having two sugar Mills) a subsidiary of Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd., from onslaughts of mismanagement of Dr. R.R. Jaipuria ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN) : (a) and (b). The company's proposal under section 269 of the Companies Act, 1956 for the re-appointment of Dr. R.R. Jaipuria as Managing Director of the company for the period from 1-7-1977 to 31-8-1980 has been rejected by Department in May, 1978. He ceased to be the Managing Director of the Company with effect from 1-9-1977. A representation has been filed by the company against the said rejection which is pending.

(c) The Government has no material to indicate any acts of mismanagement by Dr. R.R. Jaipuria who is the non-executive Chairman of Swadeshi Mining and Manufacturing Company Limited.

#### Complaints regarding Production of Oxytetracycline

4911. SHRI MOTIBHAI R. CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the nature of complaints received during past three years from various Members of Parliament about Oxytetracycline and its excess profits, addressed to the Minister and the former Prime Minister with details ;

(b) what action was proposed by the former regime and what action has been taken in this regard so far ; and

(c) if no action has yet been taken, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H.N. BAHUGUNA) : (a) to (c). The following points were raised in the main by certain members of Parliament in their letters addressed to the Minister (PC&F) and the former Prime Minister during the last 3 years, about manufacture of Oxytetracycline and excess profits thereof by M/s. Pfizer Ltd.

(i) Regularisation of their excess production of Oxytetracycline ;

(ii) Non-execution of Export Bond by M/s. Pfizer.

(iii) Substantial profits on unauthorised production of Oxytetracycline and its formulations since there was no price fixation based on cost examination of Oxytetracycline.