

ed Bulgaria and Romania from 28-5-79 to 6-6-79 on an invitation from the Defence Ministers of these countries. The return journey was via London. Details of expenditure incurred are under compilation as certain expenditure details are still awaited.

(c) This was primarily a goodwill visit during which there was a general and fruitful exchange of views on subjects of mutual interest. No contracts/agreements were signed. A Protocol was signed with Bulgaria on Defence Cooperation. In London DPM (Def) had, apart from exchange of views with the Prime Minister, the Foreign Secretary and Defence Secretary of U.K., looked into the problems of critical procurement through India Supply Wing of our High Commission in U.K.

(d) The following Officers from Ministry of Defence and Service Hqrs. accompanied DPM(Def.) for detailed study of the possibilities of cooperation with these countries, in addition PS to DPM (Def.) and a personal attendant also accompanied.

- (i) Lt. Gen. S. Menezes, VCOAS
- (ii) Shri P. S. Kohli, Jt. Secretary (P&C).
- (iii) Shri B. B. Sahai, Joint secretary (P&W).
- (iv) Maj. Gen. S. C. Payara, CCP & D.
- (v) Air Cmde. M. M. Sinha, OSD (Plg.).
- (vi) Capt. KASZ Raju, Jt. Director (Navy).

Provision of Legal Aid to weaker Sections

292. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring before Parliament at an early date a Bill for providing free

legal aid to the economically weaker sections of the community all over the country;

(b) if so, how and when and with what broad provisions; and

(c) if not, why not?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) Although Bhagwati Committee on National Juridicare have recommended legislation for providing free legal aid to the economically weaker sections of the community all over the country and have appended a draft bill with their Report, the Government is yet to take a decision thereon. An Inter-departmental Committee has been set up with a view to prepare a Paper for the directions of the Cabinet on the various points emerging from the Bhagwati Committee Report. It is about to conclude its work. It would, therefore, not be possible to give a specific answer to this question at this stage.

(b) and (c). In view of the above, these questions do not arise.

Foreign Visit by Minister

293. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he recently visited Soviet Union and other countries;

(b) if so, full facts thereof;

(c) purposes and results of the said visits; and

(d) total expenses incurred and the names of the officials who accompanied him to the said visits and reasons for their so accompanying him?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) and (b). Minister of Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers visited the Soviet Union and Saudi Arabia from 28-5-79

to 1-8-79 and 2-8-79 to 6-6-79 at the invitation of the respective Governments.

(c) USSR

The purpose of the visit to USSR was to explore possibilities for enhanced cooperation in the field of oil, petrochemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals, chemicals and related areas.

As the result of discussions between Minister of Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers and the Soviet leaders following conclusions were arrived at:

(a) In furtherance of the Joint Soviet Indian Declaration and the Long-Term Programme of Economic Trade, Scientific and Technical) Cooperation between USSR and India signed by Shri Morarji Desai, Prime Minister of India on 26-10-77 and 14-3 79 respectively, the Soviet side, subject to determination of mutually satisfactory terms and conditions, agreed to:

(i) To cooperate in the field of geological exploration for hydrocarbons in area to be mutually selected.

(ii) To cooperate in the field of geophysics including carrying out combined field geophysical surveys, delivery of field equipment as well as deputat'on of specialists.

(iii) To depute six specialists to the Institute of Drilling and Institute of Reservoir Engineering.

(iv) To prepare jointly long term techno-economic perspective plan for oil and natural gas ex-

ploration and exploitation in on-shore in India during 1981-90

(v) To drill a deep well in Tripura.

(vi) To cooperate in exchange of specialists and technical know-how in the field of lubricants, greases, hydraulic oils, catalysts, additives catalytic processes.

(b) (i) Terms and conditions regarding supply of 0.6 million tonnes of crude earlier agreed to in principle by the USSR were finalised.

(ii) Possibility of cooperation in the manufacture of new Cardiovascular drugs and streptothyroid hormones and production of Caffeine from Theolremine were also identified.

SAUDI ARABIA

The visit to Saudi Arabia was for the purpose of exchanging views regarding supply of crude oil and for exchanging economic cooperation between India and Saudi Arabia.

As the result of discussions with Saudi leaders, possibilities for cooperation between the two countries, inter alia, in the field of consultancy, engineering services, rail road construction and technical exchanges were identified. India was also assured that existing levels of supplies of crude oil from Saudi Arabia would be maintained and that Saudi Arabia would take a view on the question of additional supplies of crude to India later.

(d) The following assisted the Minister in his discussions in USSR and Arabia:

USSR

Name	Designation	Subject
Sini P.T. Venugopal	Chairman, ONGC	Oil exploration and development; supply of equipment, exchange of experts, etc.
Shri K.V. Raghvan	Chairman EIL	Consultancy and Engineering services.
Shri C.R. Das Gupta	Chairman, IOC	Crude oil and product supplies.

Name	Designation	Subject
Dr. S. Varadarajan	Chairman, IPCL	Petrochemicals, Lubricants, catalysts, greases, hydraulic oils, additives and catalytic processes.
Shri R. K. Bhargava	Jt. Secretary, Deptt. of Petroleum.	Matters concerning ONGC and oil industry.
Shri Akhtar Alam	Dir. Foreign Collaboration and IBP Group of Companies.	Economic cooperation in areas relating to Ministry of Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers and associated public sector undertakings.
Shri M. L. Hallon	P.S. to Minister	

NOTE :—Visit to Moscow of Shri K. V. Raghvan and Dr. S. Varadarajan was combined with their other foreign commitments during this period.

SAUDI ARABIA

Shri K. V. Raghvan	Chairman, EIL	Cooperation in consultancy, Engineering and Fertilizer Sectors.
Shri C.R. Das Gupta	Chairman, IOC	Crude oil and product supplies.
Shri N. Mohanty	Director, Deptt. of Heavy Industry.	Cooperation in the field of Industry.
Shri V. K. Grover	Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.	Political and Economic relations.
Shri Akhtar Alam	Director, Foreign Collaboration and IBP Group of Companies.	Economic cooperation in areas relating to Ministry of Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers and associated public sector undertakings.
Shri M. L. Hallon	Private Secretary to Minister.	

Information regarding expenditure incurred is being collected.

Rehabilitation of released Defence Personnel coming from Almora and Pithoragarh District (U.P.)

294. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of released Army officers and men coming from Almora and Pithoragarh districts are unemployed;

(b) whether Government have undertaken any survey to ascertain the number of such personnel; and

(c) whether Government have formulated any schemes for the rehabilitation of these defence personnel?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) No specific data in regard to the number of unemployed released Army officers and men from Almora and Pithoragarh districts is available. However, 603 and 849 ex-servicemen from Almora and Pithoragarh districts, respectively, were on the live Register of Employment Exchanges at the end of March, 1979.