

Supply of Crude and Petroleum products

371. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA:
 SHRI KESHORAO PARDHI:
 SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR
 SHASTRI:
 SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN:

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

(a) what effective steps have been taken by his Ministry to organise supplies of crude and petroleum products from various sources following disruption of imports in the wake of Iran-Iraq conflict including the emergency spot purchases;

(b) whether next year's oil bill including the emergency spot purchases is likely to be round about Rs. 15,000 crores;

(c) whether in view of this alarming situation on oil front, Government contemplate some positive measures to break the Assam 'Oil blockade' which has resulted in the loss of crude worth several hundred crores of rupees;

(d) whether in view of the continued blockade, nearly 65,000 tonnes of crude blockaded in the pipeline would start gelling up with the onset of winter; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken to operate the pipeline and safeguard it?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a): There has been some dislocation in the crude imports due to Iran-Iraq conflict. However, efforts are being made to cover up the gap by arranging supplies from else where to the extent required. It would not be in the national interest to divulge any further details.

(b) No Sir, It would be premature to estimate our import bill at this stage.

(c) It is not in the public interest to disclose any thing at this moment.

(d) and (e). The Government are taking steps to pump freshly conditioned crude through the pipeline to displace the stagnant crude.

Reforms in Judicial System

372. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have under consideration to reform judicial system in the country as suggested by the speakers participated in the seminar held recently on higher judiciary; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. SHRIV SHANKAR): (a) and (b). A proposal to set up a Committee to go into the question of Judicial Reforms is already under the consideration of the Government. The suggestions put forward by various speakers, who participated in the Seminar on Judicial Reforms organised by the Indian Association of Lawyers held in September, 1980 in New Delhi will be taken into account while doing so.

Shortage of Diesel in West Bengal

373. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is diesel scarcity in West Bengal for the last four months; and

(b) if so, the details of the supply of diesel to that State during the period July—December 1980 against the States' demand?