

### Finding of Oil/Gas in Rajasthan

327. SHRI JAI NARAIN ROAT: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the names of the places where oil and gas has been struck this year in the Rajasthan State?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): No oil and gas has been struck in the Rajasthan State this year.

### Legal Minimum Wages for Agricultural Labour

328. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the latest State-wise legal minimum wages fixed for agricultural labourers;

(b) whether the minimum wages fixed are being fully implemented;

(c) if so, the details thereabout;

(d) if not, the steps to enforce the same; and

(e) what is the State-wise position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) Since July 1980, 23 State Governments/Administrations have revised minimum wages for agricultural labourers and six have either appointed Committees or issued notifications for this purpose. One State does not consider it necessary to fix minimum wages, in another, there are no agricultural labourers and in the third the Minimum Wages Act has not yet been extended.

(b) to (e). Most of the workers in employment in agriculture fall within the jurisdiction of the State Governments. Enforcement of minimum wages is, therefore, the responsibility of the concerned State Governments/Administrations which have appointed Inspectors under the Minimum Wages Act. In some States, separate staff has been appointed for enforcement

of minimum wages. Every effort is being made by the State authorities to enforce the minimum wages through their own Inspectors or officials of other Departments, namely, Revenue, Panchayat, etc. depending upon the conditions in each State, periodic inspections, prosecutions, etc. In some States, Committees have been set up at various levels to oversee implementation.

### D.A. Demand by P & T Employees

329. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Posts and Telegraphs employees are demanding D.A. due from 1st April 1982, pay parity with public sector undertakings, repeal of FR-17A etc. and had observed protest day on 20th July, 1982; and

(b) if so, the details thereabout and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). The conditions of service including those relating to scales of pay are determined centrally for all Central Government employees. These are applicable to Posts and Telegraphs employees also. Hence the demands for pay parity with public sector undertakings and repeal of FR 17A cannot be considered for Posts and Telegraphs employees alone.

As regards D.A., due from 1st April, 1982 this was released to all Central Government employees including those in the Posts and Telegraphs Department in July 1982.

### Minimum Wages of Labour-engaged in Agriculture, Building and Construction Industry

330. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently Government have increased the minimum wages for workers