

process control instrumentation also is quite satisfactory.

(b) and (c) In order to keep pace with the latest technology, foreign collaboration is encouraged in the instrumentation industry. Expansion of some existing units has been permitted to improve their scale of operation, specialisation and competitiveness. The public sector units are given all assistance to enlarge their technological base and diversify production into new areas of instrumentation.

**Introduction of Computer Net-Work
in Petrochemical Units**

8090. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to introduce Computer networks in petro-chemical units;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken therefor in 1984-85;

(c) the names and the number of petro-chemical units where Computer net-works are going to be introduced; and

(d) the cost of the projects proposed therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (DR. M. S. SANJEEVI RAO) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected.

**Proposal for Exploration and
Utilisation of Ocean Wealth**

8091. SHRI AMAR ROY
PRADHAN :
SHRI MOHAMMAD ASRAR
AHMAD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal for exploration and utilisation of ocean wealth including minerals, oil and gas ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress so far made thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE, ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PAIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following steps have been taken to exploit the ocean wealth :

(i) Procurement of vessels—One research vessel SAGAR KANYA is already operating. The second research vessel SAGAR SAMPADA is likely to arrive this year.

(ii) Surveys of living and mineral resources within the continental shelf and Exclusive Economic Zone are being actively pursued. The survey of the entire western continental shelf of India and about a third of the eastern continental shelf has been completed resulting in an understanding of the geology and geophysics of the area.

(iii) Surveys of the deep-sea for polymetallic nodules are progressing well.

(iv) The work on obtaining marine chemical and fresh water from sea water is also progressing well.

(v) So far as oil & gas are concerned, the ONGC has done considerable work in the off-shore exploration of oil and gas. While the oil and gas resources of the Bombay High area have been mapped out fairly well, the work in other areas is in progress.