

India on 6th December, 1971 and the question is stated to be still "under review". No provision has been made in the U.S. budget for development assistance to India for the US fiscal year 1972, for the U.S. fiscal year 1973, a provisional allocation of \$90 million has been made. The provisional allocation for FY 1973 is conditional upon Congressional appropriation and whatever policy decision is taken by the U.S. Government on aid to India.

As regards the gap to be filled up consequent on the stoppage of U.S. economic aid for financing the Fourth Plan, the Government of India are taking all necessary action to augment indigenous production, intensify import substitution and increase exports in regard to imports alternative sources of supply, either under other available credits from other countries or from rupee payment areas or against free foreign exchange, are being arranged.

Seminar by Western Indian Regional Council of Institute of Chartered Accountants in Bombay

902 SHRI P K DLO Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether a Seminar was recently organised by the Western Indian Regional Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India in Bombay,

(b) a gist of the observations made at the Seminar, and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) (a) Yes, sir, according to newspaper reports

(b) No communication has been received by the Government from the Western Indian Regional Council of Chartered Accountants regarding observations made at the seminar

(c) Does not arise.

Bifurcation of Western Command

903 SHRI P K DFO Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report in the 'Statesman' dated the 20th June, 1972 stating that the Western Command has been bifurcated into Western Command and Northern Command,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) how would it help the defence of our Northern and Western borders?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) To streamline and strengthen the Command structure

(c) This will help to improve command and control over our formations in these areas

Manufacture of Missile-Boats

904 SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state whether in view of the effectiveness of Russian built missile boats in the recent Indo-Pak conflict Government have any plan for indigenous manufacture of such boats?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) It will not be in public interest to disclose information on this subject

Improvements made in the Engine of HS-748 Aircraft

905 SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) the nature of improvements made in the engine of HS-748 aircraft

(b) the reasons why these modifications had to be made, and

(c) whether the improved engine is showing good performance now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) (a) and (b). The only alteration made on the RDa 7 Dart Engine installed in the HS-748 Aircraft is to increase the water methanol check flow in order to ensure proper matching of the engine with the airframe

(c) The engines of all aircraft to Indian Airlines are thoroughly checked for their performance before delivery and their performance is also demonstrated to Indian Airlines during their production tests. The results of the adjustments made in the water methanol check flow are under study.

Mining of Vishakhapatnam Port by Pakistan before War

906 SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH. Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Pakistan managed to mine Vishakhapatnam port before hostilities broke out on the 3rd December last year, and

(b) if so, the steps taken to plug the loop holes in our coastal defences in the light of the aforesaid facts?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) (a) No, Sir

(b) Docs not arise

Efforts to acquire long range strike Aircrafts

907 SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH. Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government intend to acquire long range strike air-crafts, and

(b) if so, the efforts being made in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) (a) and (b) A preliminary assessment is currently under way

Request of Gujarat Government for doubling the royalty of Crude Oil

905 SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL
SHRI ARVIND NIJAM

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) whether Gujarat Government has approached the Centre for doubling the royalty paid to it by Oil and Natural Gas Commission for the crude oil produced in the State, and

(b) if so the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H R GOKHALE)

(a) and (b) The Government of Gujarat has asked for a substantial increase in the rate of crude oil royalty. No final decision on this has yet been taken

Deterioration in the Services of Banks

909 SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether representatives of the member associations of the Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry have criticised the deterioration in the services of the banks after their nationalisation,

(b) if so, whether they have complained that frequent strikes and go-slow tactics adopted by the employees cause considerable hardship to trade & industry, and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?