

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) :

(a) and (b). As a part of the global experiment, an automatic weather station was set up by the India Meteorological Department at Trivandrum in March, 1972, in collaboration with Centre National D' Etudes Spatiales, France, and the Indian Space Research Organisation. The station will function till December 1972.

The station is interrogated by an orbiting French Satellite, EOLE, and transmits meteorological data to it. The Satellite retransmits the data to a collecting station in France and the latter sends it back to the India Meteorological Department for verification.

The objective of the experiment is to test the efficacy of using an orbiting satellite to collect meteorological data from hundreds of unmanned automatic weather stations over uninhabited areas, and hundreds of floating balloons in the atmosphere. It is planned to use this technique during the Global Atmosphere Research Project to be undertaken during the next five or six years for collecting other unobtainable data over the oceans, deserts and polar regions.

**Setting up of Holding Company
for various Petro-chemical Complexes**

1869. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM and CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6617 on the 2nd August 1971 regarding the setting up of holding company to take decisions for various Petro-Chemical Complexes and state whether Government have since taken any decision in the matter and if not, the reasons for delay ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) :

No Sir. The various relevant aspects of the matter are presently under examination. **Aggregation of Income of Husband and Wife for Taxation**

1870. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to combine the incomes of husband and wife for purpose of taxation ;

(b) if so, whether Wanchoo Committee on direct Taxes had opposed this proposal; and

(c) whether the Women's Council of India has requested Government not to combine the incomes of husband and wife for the purpose of taxation and if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government is considering the question of making the family consisting of husband, wife and minor children as unit of taxation for purposes of income-tax and wealth-tax.

(b) Three of the five members of the Direct Taxes Enquiry Committee (Wanchoo Committee) were not in favour of the family consisting of husband, wife and minor children being treated as unit of assessment. The other two members have, however, recommended the adoption of such a family as a unit of taxation.

(c) No, Sir. Government have so far not received any such request from Womens' Council of India.

प्री० एल० 480 के घन का उपयोग

1871. श्री शिब कुमार शास्त्री : क्या बिल नम्ब्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) क्या पी० एल० 480 का घन भारत से बाहर नहीं जा सकता ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो पी० एल० 480 के घन का उपयोग भविष्य में किस किस रूप में हो सकेगा ?