

(b) when was the present incumbent appointed;

(c) was the present incumbent found unsuitable for a senior post in Oil and Natural Gas Commission and was appointed to a junior post; and

(d) was the post of Adviser advertised through U.P.S.C. and if not, why not?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The post of Chief of Exploration, Planning and Development was created with effect from 18-2-1967. It was subsequently redesignated as Adviser (Exploration) on 11-9-1973.

(b) The present incumbent was appointed on deputation from O.N.G.C. with effect from 6-3-1967. However, with effect from 1-9-1971, he has been appointed as Member (Off-shore) in the ONGC mentioning that he would also function as Chief of Exploration, Planning and Development/Adviser (Exploration).

(c) When he was employed in another Oil Company, the O.N.G.C. considered him during the period March-July 1961 for the post of a Superintending Geophysicist in the scale of Rs. 1300-1600 with a starting salary of Rs. 1420/-. However, the geophysicists already working in the Oil & Natural Gas Commission made representations to the Oil & Natural Gas Commission that the post should be filled up by departmental promotion. In view of the representations and taking note of the fact that he did not possess at that time the particular qualifications prescribed for the post of Superintending Geophysicist (in the Geophysics Directorate), the Oil & Natural Gas Commission did not pursue the matter further. However, it is not a fact that he was appointed to a junior post. Rather in February 1963, he was offered an appointment by Oil & Natural Gas Commission as Officer on Special Duty in the

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same scale of Rs. 1300-1600. Subsequently in November 1963, he accepted the offer and was appointed as such with an initial salary of Rs. 1600, which was the maximum of the scale. In that capacity, he was put in charge of the exploratory drilling project of Purnea and Rexaul in Bihar.

(d) No, Sir. The question of advertisement does not arise since the relevant Recruitment Rules prescribed the method of recruitment for this post as transfer/deputation or transfer on short term contract.

Engaging IMEG of U.K. as consultants for off-shore drilling

5233. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) when was the proposal to engage IMEG of U.K. as consultants for off-shore drilling mooted in his Ministry;

(b) was it on a single proposal basis, if not, who were the other consultants who had offered their service; and

(c) the cost of engaging IMEG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The proposal to engage IMEG of U.K. as consultants to select a suitable off-shore mobile drilling unit, was mooted in April 1969. On enquiry made by the High Commission of India, on behalf of the ONGC, the Ministry of Power, Govt. of U.K. advised that the Institute of Petroleum, London, be approached in the matter and latter suggested that IMEG, London, would be a suitable firm for the purpose.

(b) Of the various consultancy firms and certain Institutes from whom enquiries were made by the ONGC in the latter part of 1968, 4 firms viz.

(i) Korkut Engineers, Inc.

(ii) Off-shore Systems, Inc.
(a subsidiary of Martin Marietta)

(iii) Galdril, Inc. (a subsidiary of the
Flour Corporation Ltd.)

(iv) Global Marine, Inc. responded to the Commission's enquiry. In regard to some of these firms, it was not clear whether they had adequate experience of the type of the work involved, and in all cases, the total charge for the complete consultancy job was not indicated.

(c) The IMEG was paid a fee of U.S. \$ 19,500 for its consultancy service.

Commission's lawyers, separately is given below :—

	Amount claimed by Lawyers	Amount yet to be paid to Lawyers
(In thousand rupees)		
(i) Petroleum Ministry,s Lawyers.	293	100
(ii) IOC,s Lawy- ers.	280	70
(iii) PIC's Lawy- ers.	94	69
Total :	667	239

Expenditure incurred on Takru Commission

5234. SHRI VASANT SATHE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) the total cost incurred so far on Takru Commission ;

(b) the fees claimed individually so far by the lawyers appearing for the Petroleum Ministry, the IOC and the Commission's lawyers ;

(c) whether any payment is due to them : and

(d) the amount of sanctioned expenditure for the Commission till 31-3-1974 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Rs. 12.12 lakhs (approx.)

(b) and (c). The total amount claimed so far and the amount which is still to be paid out of the total amount claimed by the lawyers appearing for the Ministry of Petroleum & Chemicals, the IOC and the

(d) The budget provision and expenditure actually incurred by the Commission since its inception, is given below :—

	Budget Provision	Expenditure incurred
(In thousand rupees)		
(i) 1970-71	152	63
(ii) 1971-72	136	120
(iii) 1972-73	337	210
(iv) 1973-74	72	178
	(original (upto Nov. 1973) estimate)	
	(Revised estimates proposed-391)	

Construction of broad-gauge railways siding for Koradi Power Station in Nagpur

5235. SHRI VASANT SATHE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether construction of the Broad-gauge Railway Siding to serve Koradi Power Station in Nagpur region is lagging too far behind schedule ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to expedite the construction ;