

(ii) to maximise the efficiency and minimise the cost by using sophisticated equipments and techniques wherever necessary as would enable drilling of 1.47 million metres for establishing additional recoverable reserves of 70 million tonnes of oil and achieving a production rate of 8.42 million tonnes during 1978-79.

Planning Commission have set up a number of Working Groups to quickly identify the measures to be taken in various fields for reducing the consumption of different petroleum products through substitute fuels and also achieving maximum operational efficiency in various industrial units and transport undertakings including the railways.

Take-over of other Foreign Oil Companies on the pattern of ESSO

25. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
SHRI P. GANCADEB:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the action of Government in taking over 74 per cent of the equity shares and ownership of all ESSO operations in India would also be extended to other foreign oil companies in India; and

(b) if so, which will be such foreign oil companies and the time by which such action will be effected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). As soon as the final agreement with Esso is reached, it is proposed to initiate similar discussions with other foreign oil

companies in India *viz.*, Burmah-Shell and Caltex. It is not possible to indicate the time by which these discussions will be finalised.

House Building Loans to Railway Employees in Bhusawal Division (Central Railway)

26. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many Railway employees in the Bhusawal Division of the Central Railway have been sanctioned loans for the purchase of land for house building;

(b) in how much time the employees concerned have received the sanctioned loans; and

(c) whether there was any delay in some cases and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: (a) Nil.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Drilling operation by O and N G C

27. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the places where the drilling operations by O&NGC have been started or are proposed to be started soon; and

(b) the results of the operation in different places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The O & N G C has conducted drilling operations at various