

undertake offshore drilling in our country; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereabout?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Contracts have been signed with Carlsberg India Group of USA for the Bengal Basin and with the Reading and Bates Group also of USA for the Kutch Basin.

(b) The main terms of the Contract are given in the Statement laid on the Table of the Sabha in reply to Starred Question No 30 answered on 23-7-1974.

**Contract for construction of pavilion at International Exhibition in Delhi**

1059 SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Study Group set up for making arrangements for setting up the pavilion of the Ministry in the forthcoming International Exhibition at Delhi was almost split on the issue of allotting contract for construction of this pavilion; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The group could not agree on the selection of an Architect to design and supervise the construction of the proposed common pavilion of the Petroleum and Chemicals undertakings in the forthcoming India International Trade Fair, 1974.

(b) The Public Sector Undertakings concerned have since dropped the proposal of having a common pavilion.

**Conversion of Nadiad Kapadvanj Narrow Gauge line into Broad Gauge**

1060 SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL:

SHRI VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4672 on the 28th August, 1973 regarding Survey for Shamalaji-Modasa Kapadvanj new Railway line in Gujarat and state:

(a) whether the survey sanctioned on the 28th June, 1973 for the conversion of Nadiad-Kapadvanj narrow gauge line into broad gauge and its extension up to Modasa has been completed; and

(b) if so, the results of the survey and the total estimated expenditure for the conversion of the line?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) The survey is still in progress.

(b) Does not arise.

**Demand for increase in pension of Former Railway Employees**

1061. SHRI P VENKATA SUBBAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the old Railway pensioners have been drawing very meagre pension and are finding it difficult to make both ends meet; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to increase their pensions to enable to them have two square meals a day?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) The rates of pension admissible to pensionable Railway servants are the same as on the civil side.