

(b) whether Government have any check or guarantee that imported tallow will be exclusively utilised for manufacture of soap; and

(c) if so, the outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). In so far as the organised sector is concerned the question does not arise as a decision has been taken that no further import of tallow for manufacture of soap will be made. Imported tallow has been cheaper than indigenous oils in the market.

Writ Petition Challenging Presidential Ordinance on Election Expenses

2831. SHRI B. S. BHAURA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent Presidential Ordinance relating to election expenses has been challenged in Delhi High Court through a writ petition filed by a local advocate; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (DR. SARAJINI MAHISHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b). The petitioner has contended that the Presidential Ordinance *inter-alia* violates certain constitutional provisions, including article 14 which guarantees the right to equality.

Views of the Chairman of O & NGC on Oil Prospects in Iraq

2832. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the Chairman of Oil and Natural Gas Commission the prospects for oil from

the 'Concessional area' obtained by India in Iraq was very good; and

(b) if so, what are the prospects in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Sale of Crude Oil at Lower Price by Nigeria

2833. SHRI R. S. PANDEY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported decision of Nigeria to sell crude oil at a price lower than the market price; and

(b) if so, to what extent India has taken the advantage of their decision?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) and (b). Nigeria is reported to have decided to supply crude oil to African developing countries only at a price lower than that at which it is sold to other buyers.

New Railway Line Connection with Guruvayoor in Kerala

2834. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey report has been made available for the construction of a new railway line connecting Guruvayoor in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and the decision taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No. The survey is in progress.

(b). Does not arise.