

8th March, 1974 by a Member of Parliament and the President of Bhumi Mukti Committee in regard to a homeless refugee Harijan Colony set up in the deserted railway lands in Panihati area of 24 Parganas of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Eastern Railway Authority intimated the Government of West Bengal regarding its willingness to permit settlement of largely refugee Harijan Colony in this railway land;

(d) if so, facts thereabout; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to permit this refugee Harijan Colony to continue as has been done in many other cases of settlement of refugees in other vacant and unused railway lands?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JUTA SINGH): (a) No. However a representation dated 8-3-75 on this subject was received, signed by Shri Samar Guha, M.P. and other person

(b) The matter is under consideration.

(c) No

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Off-Shore Oil exploration along Coastal Belt of West Bengal and Orissa

5449. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether final programme has been drawn out for off-shore oil exploration work along the coastal belt of West Bengal and Orissa;

(b) if so, facts about the time schedule programme thereabout;

(c) the agency entrusted with the proposed exploration work; and

(d) when such work is expected to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI):

(a) to (d). The Contract for the exploration of the continental shelf areas off the coasts of West Bengal and certain portions of Orissa has been awarded to Carlsberg-Natomas Group. The reconnaissance seismic survey of the contract area has been completed. The survey has indicated structural possibilities, but these are at a considerable distance from the States of West Bengal and Orissa. Detailed seismic survey has also, therefore, been undertaken and it is only after the data obtained from these surveys are processed and interpreted that a decision could be taken about drilling wells. Subject to this and the availability of a suitable mobile off shore rig, exploratory drilling may be commenced in the last quarter of this year.

Constraints faced by Haldia Fertilizer Project

5450 SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed Haldia Fertilizer Project is facing various constraints;

(b) if so, facts thereabout;

(c) the time scheduled for its completion and commissioning into production operation, and

(d) the steps taken to remove constraints for early commissioning of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH):

(a) to (d). A fertilizer project at Haldia with a capacity for the manufacture of 152,000 tonnes of nitrogen and 75,000 tonnes of P₂O₅ was taken up for implementation in 1972. This project