

(b) The Government of India have been taking various steps from time to time to facilitate the return of Indian Scientists, Engineers, Medical Personnel etc. from abroad. A statement showing the measures taken is enclosed.

Statement

(1) A special section—"Indians Abroad" section—of the National Register is maintained for enrolment of Indian Scientists and Technologists abroad and for the circulation of their particulars in the form of classified Directories to all Ministries, Departments of the Government of India, State Governments, Union and State Public Service Commissions, Public Sector Industries and large private sector establishments. Particulars of such personnel are also published in the monthly "Technical Manpower" Bulletin (CSIR) which is distributed free to about 2,500 organisations all over India.

(2) The Union Public Service Commission and some of the State Public Service Commissions have agreed to treat Indian Scientific and Technical Personnel whose particulars are in the Indian Abroad section of the National Register, as 'Personal Contact' candidates for posts advertised by them.

(3) The Scientists Pool, operated by CSIR provides temporary placement for well-qualified Indian Scientific and Technical personnel returning from abroad without an assured job.

(4) Supernumerary posts can be created in approved scientific institutions to which temporary appointments can be made quickly from among the scientists working and studying abroad.

(5) A "Package Scheme" has been approved to attract Indian scientists, technologists and engineers working in production units abroad to come back and start their own industries in this country, particularly in spheres where they may have acquired skills in production technology.

(6) CSIR have introduced a scheme for appointment of 'Research Associate' or 'Visiting Scientists' under which Indian scientists etc. visiting India for a short period can be offered such appointment in CSIR organisations in cases where their background fits the requirement of the organisation.

(7) The University Grants Commission has introduced a scheme under which Indian scholars abroad can be offered short-term appointment in Indian Universities during their sabbatical leave.

(8) With a view to encouraging highly qualified scientists to return to India for permanent settlement, it has been decided that such scientists while returning from abroad will be allowed to import professional scientific instruments and equipment, whether new or used, upto a value not exceeding Rs. 50,000 provided (i) the scientist concerned has been living abroad for two years (ii) the imported equipment will be used by him in India and (iii) the equipment has been purchased out of his own foreign exchange earning abroad.

Energy Policy

238. SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether failure to strike oil in Kutch, Saurashtra and Calcutta offshore structures would affect our energy policy; and

(b) if so, facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The present energy policy of the country is based on the proved research of oil and it does not take into account the possibilities of striking oil wherever explorations are under way. The policy would be periodically reviewed, in the light of relevant new circumstances and options as may emerge.