

Rajasthan to find deposits of oil and gas;

(b) if so, whether such deposits have been discovered in Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the regions where such deposits have been found;

(d) whether Government propose to work on these deposits; and

(e) if so, the time likely to be taken to finalise the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI RAGHU RAMAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Indication of the presence of gas has been obtained in two wells in the Jaisalmer District.

(d) A few more wells will have to be drilled in order to make a reliable estimate of the size of the reserves and their commerciality.

(e) This will depend upon the results of the drilling referred to in (d) above.

Decline in Naphtha Surplus

1989. **SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's Naphtha surplus is fast declining and there is likelihood of serious shortage of naphtha in the country;

(b) if so, the stock of surplus naphtha as it stood on the 30th June, 1968; and

(c) the period for which the existing stock of naphtha is likely to last?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI RAGHU RAMAIAH): (a) Naphtha is surplus at present. The surplus will decline progressively as the fertiliser and petrochemical factories under construction and approved begin to lift their required quantities. A shortage is likely to occur after 1971.

(b) and (c). Naphtha surplus to the country's requirement has been exported and stocks are not allowed to accumulate.

Officials' Visit Abroad

1990. **SHRI P. GOPALAN:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many officials of each Ministry/Department of Government visited foreign countries on Government and private missions during the period from the 1st January, 1967 to 30th June, 1968; and

(b) the total expenditure incurred in connection with these visits?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE, (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) and (b). The requisite information in respect of officials who visited foreign countries on Government missions during the period from the 1st January, 1967 to 30th June, 1968 is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2308/68].

Since visits of Government officials on private missions abroad are dealt with by the Reserve Bank of India direct, no statistics of such visits are maintained by Government.

Denial of 'P' Form to Kerala's Chief Minister

1991. **SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:**
SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE:
SHRI D. N. PATODIA:
SHRI C. C. DESAI:
SHRI RAMA AVATAR SHASTRI:
SHRI A. SREEDHARAN:
SHRI VALMIKI CHOU-DHARY:
SHRI VASUDEVAN NAJR:
SHRI E. K. NAYANAR:

**SHRI SRADHAKAR
SUPAKAR:
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Kerala has been denied 'P' Form for going to East Germany;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of such cases in respect of Central and State Ministers?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE, (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Some times travel proposals of Ministers are drawn up on the basis of their being in receipt of invitations and hospitality from abroad. In such cases, no release of foreign exchange from India is involved except for a small amount for meeting incidental expenses and only passage clearance is normally sought. In respect of Ministers such travel proposals are examined in the context of the following criteria:

1. Hospitality/invitation abroad should be only from a foreign Government and not from non-Governmental sources like societies and private bodies, etc.
2. Passage cost should be paid by us and not by the hosts.
3. The invitation should be routed through the Ministry of External Affairs as per normal protocol requirements.
4. Foreign visits of Ministers should be primarily for work connected with their office or with their official responsibilities and position.

2. Travel proposals are cleared only if they are in accordance with the above policy.

3. The request of the Chief Minister of Kerala could not be cleared since the invitation and hospitality was from the South East Asian Society, Berlin, which is a private party.

(c) A part from the case of the Chief Minister of Kerala, the question did not arise since the Ministers concerned subsequently themselves dropped their travel requests.

Appointment of Deputy Project Officer for Text Book Presses

1992. **SHRI RAM SEWAK YADAV:** Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a post of Deputy Project Officer in the scale of Rs. 700—1150 was created in 1961-62 in connection with the setting up of the Text Book Presses;

(b) whether a post with a similar or modified designation viz., O.S.D. Text Books in the scale of Rs. 900—1250 has recently been created in connection with the setting up of the Text Book Presses; and

(c) if so, the qualification prescribed for this post and the manner in which it is proposed to be filled up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI IQBAL SINGH): (a) A post of Manager Grade II designated as Deputy Project Officer (Printing) in the scale of pay of Rs. 700—1150 was created in 1962 to assist the Project Officer (Printing) in the planning and progressing of the Third Five Year Plan schemes of the Printing and Stationery Department. The post was abolished with effect from the 1st April, 1963.

(b) It has been decided to set up a Project Cell in the office of the Chief Controller of Printing and Stationery