

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Powers under the Commissions of Enquiry Act, 1952 (60 of 1952) were asked for and were granted.

Oil Structure at Dholka

1510. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Kindar Lal:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new oil structure has been found at Dholka near Ahmedabad; and

(b) if so, the extent of such oil reserve?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) Only one well has so far been drilled. An assessment of the reserves of oil can be made only after some more wells are drilled.

Hill State Demands Day

1511. **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Hill-State Demands Day was observed by the All-Party Hill Leaders Conference in Assam on the 24th October, 1966;

(b) whether 24th October, 1966 was declared a public holiday by the State Government to facilitate this demonstration;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Indian Flag with a rose inserted was demonstrated either in the procession or by a leader of the Assam Leaders Conference to the Press a few days prior to this demonstration; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. 24th October, 1966 was a public holiday on account of Vijaydashmi.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The activities of the All-Party Hill Leaders are being watched by the Government.

Drilling in Rameshwaram

1512. **Shri M. Malaichami:** Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil test drilling in Rameshwaram Island has started; and

(b) if not, when it is likely to be started and whether all the equipment required for the purpose has reached the Island?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): (a) No.

(b) The well is expected to be drilled during 1968, according to a provisional programme prepared by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

Assets of Indo-Burma Co.

1513. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with the Indian Oil Corporation to purchase the fixed assets of the Indo-Burma Petroleum Company;

(b) if so, the nature and extent of such assets and their book value; and

(c) by what time the transaction is likely to be finalised?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) The assets consist mainly of their Oil Installations at Bombay and Calcutta, Up-country Depots and Retail outlets at various places. The book value of the fixed assets, according to the balance sheet for the year