

LEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether oil drilling operation in Garo hills has become successful ; and

(b) if so, when Government propose to extract oil ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) So far, no oil/gas shows have been observed in the first exploratory well, presently being drilled in the area.

(b) Does not arise.

Demands of the Private Medical Practitioners' Association of India

10125. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received the Memorandum of the Private Medical Practitioners' Association of India ;

(b) whether Government have considered their demands ;

(c) if so, whether Government are accepting the reasonable demand that Private Medical Practitioners with experience over 10 years be registered and those who are practising for more than 5 years and less than 10 years at present be kept listed and registered after fulfilment of 10 years ;

(d) whether Government have finally considered all other demands : and

(e) if so, the reactions of Government to the Memorandum ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. S. CHANDRASEKHAR) : (a) to (e). The question of permitting unqualified medical practitioners to carry on practice and

the conditions attaching to it is still under consideration of the Government of India. The demands of the Private Medical Practitioners' Association of India in this regard have been noted.

Appointment of Peons in Income-tax Department

10:26. SHRI DHIRESWAR KALITA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether interviews for recruiting peons in Income-tax Department for Assam, Manipur and Nagaland took place in Shillong, Gauhati and Dibrugarh on the 8th April, 1970 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a guideline or direction was issued by the Commissioner of Income-tax *vide* Memo No. E-I/68-69/54881-83 dated the 30th January, 1970 to the Interviewing Officers concerned that preference should be given to those candidates in selection who have got special skills like carpentry, Paintings and electrical works ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(d) whether Government propose to investigate into this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir ; preference was directed to be given also to ex-Servicemen.

(c) The Commissioner of Income-tax felt that preference could be given to ex-Servicemen because they possess a better sense of discipline and also because peons might on occasions be called upon to do duty as watchmen. Persons Possessing special skills were considered to be more suitable because they are apt to possess a higher level of general intelligence.

(d) Government have looked into the matter. The Commissioner of Income-tax has been directed to ensure that final panels for appointment are prepared strictly in accordance with the relevant orders of the Government of India.