

**Oil spill in Arabian Sea off West Coast**

2368. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:  
DR. B.L. SHAILESH:  
SHRI K.S. RAO:  
SHRI P.M. SAYEED:  
SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:  
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-  
CHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a major oil spill took place recently in the Arabian Sea off the West Coast;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the after effects of this oil spill;

(d) the preventive measures being taken by the concerned agencies to launch clearing operations to disperse the slick reaching the shoreline on the West Coast;

(e) whether any responsibility has been fixed and action taken to claim compensation for the damages; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An oil tanker, m.t. 'Puppy' a Maltese flag ship, collided with another vessel, 'World Quince' 725 nautical miles off the coast of Bombay. This resulted in an oil spill of 5500 tonnes which has not reached the coast. When m.t. 'Puppy' came near the coast of Bombay for repairs, a small spill of two tonnes occurred by wave action which was controlled.

(c) Samples have been collected to study the effects, if any, although there is no effect on fish or the fish-eating public.

(d) Various steps adopted by the Government in this regard are as follows:

(i) the Indian Coast Guard went into action immediately assisted by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board;

(ii) a high level meeting was held in Bombay by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, to chalk out the strategies to be followed;

(iii) Regional Contingency Committee which already function with the Indian Coast Guard were directed to locate the oil slick and also to implement the action plan; and

(iv) National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad was also assigned the task of locating the oil slick through the satellite.

(e) and (f). Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Surface Transport have taken action to fix civil liability and claim compensation.

**Statement corrective reply to USQ. No. 350 dated 19th July, 1989 Re-statues of Mahatma Gandhi and Indira Gandhi**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): It has been noticed that while answering the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 350 for 19th July, 1989, a clerical error has occurred in answer to parts (a) & (b) of the Question. The reply given to parts (a) & (b) of the Question was as under:

"(a) & (b): The work of bronze casting of the Statue of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, which is likely to be installed at India Gate before the end of the year, has been awarded."

2. The answer to parts (a) & (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 350 for 19th July, 1989 should read as under:

"(a) and (b). The work of bronze casting of the Statue of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi is in progress. As soon as the casting is completed, the work of installation will be taken up."

3. The inconvenience caused is regretted.

12.00 hrs.

#### VACATION OF SEAT BY MEMBER

[English]

SHRI SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that under the provisions of Clause (1) of Article 158 of the Constitution, the seat of Shri Khurshid Alam Khan, Member from Farrukhabad constituency of Uttar Pradesh has become vacant with effect from 18th July, 1989 consequent to his assuming the office of the Governor of Goa.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Bairagi.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA (Vidisha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, pleased listen to the youth also. You always listen to Shri Bairagi.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that due to the rivalry between two doctors of AIIMS, Dr. Sneh Bhargava and Dr. Wadhwa, the Lithotripter, worth Rs. 2 crores is lying idle for the last two years. This happening

because of ego clash. This is the only machine available in the country and that too is not being used. I would like you to ask the hon. Minister of Health to intervene and resolve the deadlock.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Rafique is the Minister and being Rafique Alam (well wisher) he will look into this matter.

[English]

SHRI GOKUL SAIKIA (Lakhimpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had already written to you that my life was in danger.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already taken action on that.

SHRI GOKUL SAIKIA: Sir, no action was taken because today, in the Central Hall, my life was threatened by some M.P. So, I urge upon you again to impose President's rule in Assam. Otherwise, there will be no democracy in Assam.

MR. SPEAKER: That is not in my power. But I have sent your complaint to the Government.

SHRI GOKUL SAIKIA: There is no security for my persons. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you may be aware that we have been always demanding a discussion on the Bhachawat Report.

MR. SPEAKER: I have taken note of it. A discussion will be allowed.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is the last session of this Lok Sabha.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): Mr.