

(1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

- (i) Review by the Government on the working of the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1969-70.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1969-70 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—678/71*]

12.49 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
FOURTH REPORT

SHRI C. C. DESAI (Sabarkantha) : I beg to present the Fourth Report of the public Accounts Committee regarding Audit Reports on the Accounts of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for the year 1966-67, 1967-68, and 1968-69.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS, AND SHIPPING AND
TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : Sir,
I rise to announce that Government Business
in this House during the week commencing
from Monday the 19th July after the voting
of Demands for Grants (General) for 1971-72
on 21st July, 1971, will consist of :—

- (1) General discussion on the Budgets
for 1971-72 and voting of the related
demands for grants in respect of the
States of Gujarat, Mysore and West
Bengal.
- (2) Consideration and passing of the
Finance (No.2) Bill, 1971.

12.50 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : COMMITTEE TO IN-
VESTIGATE THE WORKING OF OIL
AND NATURAL GAS COMMISSION

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM
AND CHEMICALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) :
Hon. Members would recall that during the

Debate on Grants of the Ministry of Petro-
leum and Chemicals, I had mentioned that
I would be appointing a High Power Commit-
tee to make a study of the organisation,
financing and functioning of the Oil and
Natural Gas Commission.

Accordingly, it has been decided to appoint
a Committee to study certain features of the
structure organisation, financing and function-
ing of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission
and make recommendations for changes and
improvements which will strengthen and enable
the Commission to achieve the objective of
rapid expansion of its programme of survey,
exploration and production of gas and oil,
both on shore and off-shore, so that the poten-
tial oil and gas resources of the country are
fully expored and exploited within a measur-
able period of time and the Commission are
able to extend their activities to promising on-
share and offshore areas in neighbouring
countries if and when suitable opportunities
arise and thus the Commission is able to make
rapid and continuous additions to establish
reserves and to production to meet the grow-
ing needs of the country

The composition of the expert team would
be as follows :—

- | | |
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| 1. Shri K. D. Malaviya, M. P.
Chairman. | |
| 2. Shri M. S. Pathak,
Member, Planning Commission
and Chairman Engineers
India Limited. | Member
" |
| 3. Dr. G. Ramaswamy,
Chief of Exploration, Planning
and Development, Ministry of
Petroleum and Chemicals. | " |
| 4. Shri N. Krishnan,
Chief Cost Accounts Officer,
Ministry of Finance. | " |
| 5. A Senior and experienced
Geologist, whose name will
be announced later.
Shri S. N. Ghosh. Chief of
Publicity Division, Petroleum
Information Service and
Editor, Oil Commentary
will be Secretary. | " |

[Shri P. C. Sethi]

The terms of reference of the Committee include the following—

Programme Planning

1. To review the organisation for, the methods and techniques and the quality of programme planning and of preparation of Project Reports of the ONGC and the adequacy of the methods and techniques followed for reviewing from time to time and for keeping proper and timely watch on implementation of the programmes and projects and suggest improvements in these matters, where necessary ;

Organisational matters

2. To review the structure of the Commission from the level of the Commission down to the Project, including a review of the composition of the Commission and the distribution of functions and responsibilities among the Chairman and the other whole time Members and the need for and role of part-time Members. The distribution of separate functions and responsibilities among the whole-time Members and how they discharge these and the role that they play in the working of the Commission as a whole should aim at securing the maximum contribution of each Member individually and also to the Commission as a whole.

3. To view the existing decision making processes and those for follow-up of decisions obtaining at various levels within the Commission, in administrative, technical, financial and other matters, the role of the Standing Committee of the Commission ; and the need for any technical committees indicating in what fields and in what manner these should function.

4. To review the existing regional set-up, the area of their coverage, their staffing ; functions and responsibilities and relationship with Headquarters ; whether there is need for the creation of more regions and how their working can be made conducive to better planned and coordinated programme implementation within the whole region and how the regional organisation can become more effective as an operational agency ;

5. To review the present personnel policy of the ONGC, with particular reference to recruitment, training and promotions, rotation

of staff between Directorates and Departments, scope provided for needed specialisation in different fields and the development of managerial and technical competence among the Key personnel with the object of building up greater capacity and self-reliance in the Commission for undertaking more difficult operations, particularly in the off-shore, and on an extended scale and ensuring competent handling of the operations, both managerially and technically ;

Finance

6. To review the existing pattern of financing of the ONGC, particularly the ratio between the equity and loans, and to suggest changes that may help to present a fair picture of the financial results of the Commission's operations and facilitate, and remove any disincentives that there may be, the Commission's taking normal risks involved in oil exploration and production. Also to review the costing system and budgetary control existing in the Commission and suggest measures for improvement.

Technical matters

7. To review the know-how, expertise and technical capabilities at present obtaining in the various technical Directorates and Departments of the Commission and assess how far these need to be strengthened to enable the Commission to expand its programme, particularly in difficult on-shore areas and in off-shore. To view also in this connection the extent and manner of coordination existing among the various technical Directorates and Departments and to assess the practical assistance to operations from the Institute of Petroleum Exploration and review further the relationship of the Institute with other allied scientific and technical Institutes in the country, like the I.I.P. (Indian Institute of Petroleum) This review should lead to the identification of the important areas where gaps exist in technology and know-how and to the suggesting of measures by which these gaps can be quickly bridged, whether by training or recourse to outside assistance of experts or consultancy services.

8. To review whether the geological and well-testing data are properly obtained and documented and fully used in every possible way, by re-checking and re-interpreting where necessary, in planning and implementa-

tation of further programme, and whether in this matter there is adequate coordination between the concerned Directorates.

9. To review in broad terms the adequacy, both in terms of quality and quantity, of seismic, drilling, testing, production and other important equipment at present available and in use in the ONGC, and if gaps and shortcomings are revealed to suggest measures for removing these;

10. To review the deployment of drilling rigs and seismic equipment and suggest measures for their better and more effective utilisation;

The Committee is being requested to give their report within a period of three months.

12.55 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE THIRD REPORT

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Third report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 15th July, 1971."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Third Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 15th July, 1971."

The motion was adopted

12.56 hrs.

WEST BENGAL STATE LEGISLATURE (DELEGATION OF POWERS) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to confer on the President the power of the legislature of the State of West Bengal to make laws.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE—*rose*.

MR. SPEAKER: You should be very brief.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Burdwan): Of course, with your permission, Sir.

This is a matter of importance, an important piece of legislation which is sought to be introduced.

This Bill seeks to do away with the entire democratic process of legislation. Because, there could be no opportunity of discussion or of debate in respect any Bill or anything that may be passed or law enacted in respect of West Bengal,

So far as the Constitutional provision is concerned, I know, the Minister will refer to Art. 357. But that should be taken recourse to in gravest emergency: not as a regular procedure to be adopted in every case where Presidential rule is promulgated. So far as the Constitution is concerned, there are various provisions in Part IV, dealing with Directive Principles which are never taken recourse to, and this has become something like a monument of Government's in action and apathy because Government has never taken any steps for the purpose of enforcing the Directive principles.

Just because there is a Constitutional provision it is not necessary that Parliament should abdicate its function of enacting law for the purpose of the State over which Presidential rule is promulgated and leave the entire process of legislating for that State to the executive, in the name of the President. It will give rise to tendencies of passing laws without discussion, laws which will be in the nature of 'anti-people' laws. And, we will have no opportunity to discuss that. The only provision made is that there can be amendment of any of the Acts which are passed by the President in exercise of the powers under this statute. But, Sir, that will be only in the case of amendment that may be proposed, but there is no scope for general discussion or for disapproval of the Presidential Act that may be passed.