

[*Translation*]

**Supply of Fertilizer in Bihar**

\* 728. SHRI ABDUL HANNAN ANSARI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that farmers in Bihar did not get fertilizers and seeds in time during the last year; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) Difficulties were experienced in meeting the fertiliser requirements in certain pockets and in certain periods in Bihar last year. But the overall supply was very satisfactory, and the consumption of fertilisers during 1984-85 increased by 33% over that in 1983-84.

Regarding the seeds, sufficient quantity of seed of various crops were available in the State well in time. In fact, the distribution in 1984-85 exceeded that in 1983-84.

(b) Adequate stocking of fertilisers and seed is being made to meet the demand of the State as per agreed quantities of consumption of these inputs.

[*English*]

**Indigenisation of Oil Field Equipment**

729. SHRI B V. DESAI :

SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether government have decided to review the entire scheme for indigenisation of oil field equipment; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) and (b). There is no proposal to review the entire scheme for indigenisation of oil field equipment. Government, however, attaches importance to efficient indigenisation of oil fields equipment. Pursuant to this, the Government has already announced various measures such as extension of deemed exports benefits, price preference to domestic suppliers, etc. These are reviewed from time to time.

**Offshore Drilling for Oil and Gas in Saurashtra**

\* 733. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the outcome of offshore drilling for oil and gas off the shores of Saurashtra;

(b) the estimated reserves;

(c) when this field will commence producing results; and

(d) the reasons why there has been a lull in the operations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) No oil or gas has been discovered in the area so far.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Chevron Oil Company, who were exploring for oil in this basin relinquished the area in March 1985 after drilling three wells.

Further exploratory work would be decided after ONGC has reviewed the data collected by Chevron,