

of crude oil have been concluded;

(c) Whether according to an analysis of data from major industrialised nations, world oil demand which seemed to be reviving during 1984, is likely to head for a new slump during this year; and

(d) if so, Government's proposals for buying oil in the falling market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) During the calendar year 1985, the estimated import of crude oil will be 14.6 million tonnes.

(b) All the contracts with foreign National Oil Companies have been concluded.

(c) and (d). There are conflicting reports on estimated demand for oil in the world during 1985. However, a constant watch is kept on the market. Nearly one third of our oil requirements is purchased in the spot market to take advantage of the lower prices.

Indo-British Fertilizer Education Project

*460. **SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States where Fertilizers Education and Agricultural Development Programme is undertaken in the name of Indo-British Fertilizer Education Project;

(b) whether it is going to be wound up next year;

(c) whether the Overseas Development Administration Monitoring Team of U.K. Government has visited these projects in the first week of March, 1985; and

(d) if so, the recommendations made by this team?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND

COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) Indo-British Fertilizer Education Project is being implemented by M/s Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited in selected districts of Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(b) The project is for a period of five years which is expiring in the middle of 1986.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The recommendations of this monitoring team have not been received so far.

Exploration of Oil and Natural Gas in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

*461. **SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken off-shore and on-shore drilling operations in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the number of such drilling operations conducted and the results thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to intensify exploration of oil and natural gas in these Islands; and

(d) if so, what are the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Exploratory drilling has been undertaken by ONGC, only in the offshore area where four wells have been drilled so far. One of them produced gas at the rate of 1.8 lakh cubic meters per day.

(c) and (d). Another offshore well was spudded in April 1985. During 1985-87 drilling of five wells is contemplated by ONGC. Oil India Limited is also planning to take up drilling in some parts of the basin.

Import of Crude Oil

*462. **SHRI R. P. GAEKWAD :** Will

the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether crude oil imports during the Seventh Five Year Plan are expected to go up;

(b) whether oil imports are anticipated to rise from nearly 13.5 million tonnes during the current year to 22 million tonnes in 1989-90 i.e. the terminal year of the Seventh Plan;

(c) the total import bill at the current prices during 1984-85 and the import bill likely to go up during the Seventh Plan period; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to augment domestic supplies during the Seventh Plan in order to become self-sufficient in the matter of crude oil requirement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Crude oil imports in the Seventh Plan will be worked out after oil production estimates are finalised in the light of plan allocations.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

(d) Some of the steps to increase indigenous production are: use of enhanced oil recovery techniques, intensification of work-over operations and intensification of exploration in less precisely known geological regions and induction of advanced technology.

Crash of I.A.F. Aircrafts in Jamnagar and Gorakhpur

*463. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY :
SHRI HARISH RAWAT :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether two I.A.F. aircrafts crashed in Jamnagar and Gorakhpur during the third week of March, 1985;

(b) if so, the causes of accidents;

(c) the estimated loss of life and property; and

(d) whether any inquiry into the causes

of accidents has since been conducted and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Three IAF aircraft were lost during accidents on 19th and 20th March 85 at Gorakhpur and Jamnagar.

(b) and (d). Courts of Enquiries have been ordered to investigate into the causes of these accidents.

(c) Three Air Force Officers were killed in the above two accidents—two on 10th March at Gorakhpur and one on 20th March at Jamnagar. The three aircraft involved in the accidents were totally destroyed. No other loss or damage to property has, however, been reported.

Foreign Mail Service in West Bengal

*464. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foreign mail services in West Bengal are virtually in shambles;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Nil, in view of (a) above.

(c) There have been occasional delays in the receipt and despatch of mails from Calcutta on account of non-availability of ship sailings, and labour problems. Existing procedures are also being streamlined.

Rehabilitation of Ex-Servicemen

3112. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :