

श्री नरेन्द्र सिंह बिष्ट : क्या मंत्री जी बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि जो साढ़े 17 लाख की सिविल लाइन्स बनने जा रही है और जिस की योजना दिल्ली ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेशन को दी जा चुकी है, उस की रूप रेखा पर प्रकाश डालेंगे, या सदन की मेज पर उस योजना को रखने की कृपा करेंगे ?

SHRI D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA : I will lay it on the Table of the House.

श्री नरेन्द्र सिंह बिष्ट : चौथी योजना के भन्त तक यह पूरी होगी। साढ़े 17 लाख रु० की यह योजना है तो इतनी छोटी योजना में इतना ज्यादा समय क्यों लग रहा है ?

SHRI D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA : To take up the projects and their implementation depending upon the additional demands envisaged or the envisaged projected demand will take time. So, the projected execution period also will take time. For the information of the hon. Member I can tell that there are some eight schemes the details of which I can lay on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : 906—Mr. G.C. Dixit—
absent.

907—Mr. Kathamuthu
—absent.

908— Mr. Chandrapan.

Oil Deposits in Kerala

*908. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Government had approached the Centre for making geological investigation at the sea coast in Kerala regarding the reported existence of oil deposits there; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Central Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) On 4th May, 1971, the Minister for Industries, Government of Kerala, had written

to the then Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals suggesting further seismic investigations regarding the existence of oil off the sea coast of Kerala.

(b) The Oil and Natural Gas Commission has no plans at present to conduct further exploration in this area.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : Answering part (b) of the question the hon. Minister has said that at present there are no plans with the ONGC to conduct investigation regarding the existence of oil.

I would like to know from the Minister as to what are the reasons why such a decision has been taken by the Oil & Natural Gas Commission.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : As a result of the study it was found that no seepage of oil is found in the inland part of the basin and German experts have given opinion that no oil possibility is there. So, it would not be useful for the Commission to go into the question at present.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : Is it a fact that Soviet experts have said that there is an oil deposit between Cochin and Alleppey? Also possibility of offshore drilling in the Cannanore coast? Has Government considered this opinion also ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : We had certain investigations done in this regard. We have come to the conclusion that no fruitful results would be available by carrying on the seismic survey in the area. Offshore drilling is in deep water and unless there is some kind of oil find it would be difficult to carry on offshore drilling also.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Has similar request been received from other States ? If so, please tell the name of such States.

MR. SPEAKER : This is about Kerala only. The moment I allow it, there will be no end. Please make up by asking your own question; don't thrust yourself on another's question.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Have they got sufficient number of equipments to carry out investigations in different areas and different places ?

SHRI P. C. SETHI : We have got quite a number of rigs which could take up exploration. As far as geological and seismic surveys are concerned there are number of parties who work in various parts of the country.

SHRI A. K. GOPALAN : Has it come to the notice of the Government that some years ago the Soviet experts reported about oil deposits in the coast of Kerala? If so, will the enquire into the matter, and if the enquiry reveals this possibility, will they reconsider their decision and see that investigation is being made?

SHRI P. C. SETHI : In the main body of the question itself this has been answered on the basis of the geological and gravity surveys on land done in this area and preliminary off shore surveys and examination carried out of the rocks and other things, it was found that there is no oil ad.

U. N. Secretary General's help Sought by India for Repatriation of Diplomatic Personnel from Dacca

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SHRI NIHAR LASKAR :

SHRI BISHWANATH

JHUNJHUNWALA :

SHRI RAM SHEKHAR

PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has sought the good offices of the U. N. Secretary General for securing release of Indian Diplomats from Dacca ;

(b) whether Pakistan Government have relaxed restrictions on the Indian diplomatic personnel in Dacca ; and

(c) how far the efforts of the U. N. Secretary General have borne fruit ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) On the 8th June, 1971, we brought to the notice of the Secretary-General of the United Nations the harassment and maltreatment meted out to the former Deputy High Commissioner of India in Dacca and his

staff and sought the good-offices of the Secretary-General in ensuring their safety, proper treatment and earliest repatriation to India.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Since we hoped that efforts to secure the repatriation of our personnel from Dacca through the good offices of the Swiss Ambassador in New Delhi would shortly bear fruit, we have not thought it necessary to trouble U. N. Secretary-General further at this stage.

Facilities for meeting Deputy High Commissioner of India in Dacca

*925. **SHRI C. CHITTIBABU :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan has acceded to the Indian request for facilities to meet our Deputy High Commissioner in Dacca as stated by the Pakistan High Commissioner in New Delhi recently ; and

(b) if so, what facilities have been given to India in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR : May I know from Government what is actually happening to our diplomatic personnel in Dacca ? The country is anxious to know these things. Things are not very well, and reportedly our Deputy High Commissioner has made a statement that he is prepared for the worst. In view of this, may I know whether Government have any idea about what is happening to our Personnel there, and if so, through whom ?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : We have the information, and as far as that information goes, our personnel there are safe and sound, so far as their personal security is concerned. But they are undergoing a number of hardships and harassments. That is a fact and we have made these things known to the House a number of times. We are trying our best to have these restrictions removed as early as possible and also to bring them back to India.