

(a) whether all the 17 employees have since been absorbed in Indian Oil Corporation ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, when all these employees were originally recruited by the Indian Oil Corporation ;

(d) whether the employees not absorbed in the Indian Oil Corporation have the represented their case to the authorities; and

(e) if so, the action taken on their representations and when they are likely to be absorbed in the Indian Oil Corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NARSINGH YADAV) : (a) Twenty-seven, please.

(b) the employees of Bureau of Petroleum and Chemicals Studies (renamed as Bureau of Petroleum Studies) except those who were on daily wages, were absorbed in Indian Oil Corporation and Oil & Natural Gas Commission.

(c) On the Closure of the Bureau of Petroleum Studies its assets and staff were divided between the two undertakings viz: ONGC and IOC as these undertakings were meeting the expenditure of this Bureau.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Since the expenditure on the Bureau was shared by ONGC and IOC, it would not have been appropriate to ask IOC alone to absorb all the employees of the Bureau. No further action is proposed to be taken in the matter.

Paragraphs in News Bulletins of A.I.R.

*507. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the daily morning 8 to 8.10 and night 8.45 to 9.15 min News Bulletins on the AIR contains many paragraphs of Ministerial speeches inside and outside Parliament;

(b) if so, percentage thereof ;

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(c) whether it is a fact that inclusion of such views in the said Bulletins deprive the listeners of important news of India and the world ; and

(d) if so, steps being taken to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (b) A. I. R. news bulletins cover the speeches of Ministers both inside and outside the Parliament on the basis of their newsworthiness. Specified percentages of news bulletins are not allotted for the coverage of any category of news items. The news bulletins referred to attempt to give a balanced presentation of all news of importance keeping in view the need to keep the listeners well informed.

Proposals from State Governments for Super Thermal Power Stations

*508. SHRI U.S. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) how many State Governments have submitted proposals for super power thermal plants and how many of them have been accepted;

(b) whether the Government of Maharashtra have sought permission to raise furnace for super power thermal station on the basis of bilateral agreement with international finance agencies of foreign countries ; and

(c) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMCHANDRAN) :

(a) The following project reports for the setting up of large sized thermal power stations (involving installation of 1000 MW and above) have been received in the Central Electricity Authority (C.E.A.) from the State Governments/Electricity Board of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Bihar. The clearance of the projects will depend on the techno-economic appraisal by the C.E.A. keeping in view the most economic options available for meeting the power demand, and on identification of resources.

Project	Installed Capacity (MW)
1. Anpara 'B' Thermal Power Station (U. P.)	1000 (2 × 500)
2. Ropar Thermal Power Station (Punjab)	1000 (5 × 200)
3. Viridiyachal Thermal Power Station (Madhya Pradesh)	1000 (2 × 500)
4. Ujjain Thermal Power Station Stage —I (Maharashtra)	1000 (2 × 500)
5. Colgeng Thermal Power Station (Bihar)	3000 (6 × 500)
6. Ray Thermal Power Station (Bihar)	2400 (2 × 200 + 4 × 500)

Proposals have also been received from the State Governments of Maharashtra and Orissa suggesting the establishment of a large sized thermal power station at Chandrapur (Stage III-1500 MW) and at Talcher (1000 MW) respectively. However, the project reports in respect of these have not yet been received.

(b) & (c). The Government of Maharashtra had sent proposals seeking World Bank assistance for setting up two super thermal stations *viz.* Ujjaini (2 × 500 MW) and Chandrapur Stage III (3 × 500 MW). All assistance from the World Bank, International Development Association and from other multilateral/bilateral donors for various projects, including power projects becomes available to the Govt. of India and all aid agreements are also executed by the external agencies with the Government of India. All foreign assistance enters the Central pool of resources for the benefit of the economy. From the pool of Central resources, which, *inter-alia* includes foreign aid, assistance is provided by the Central Government to the State Governments for financing the Plan expenditure. Therefore, the question of the State Governments entering into any direct bilateral agreements with international financing agencies and foreign countries does not arise.

Review Committee for Defence Services

*509. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Will the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that it is not possible to fill Defence officers' in-take quotas without lowering selection standards in contrast with the stampede to join the civil services and reasons for the same;

(b) is it a fact that the people are not attracted to defence services because of unfavourable grade structure of the forces *vis-a-vis* the civil services;

(c) whether there is any cadre review committee for defence services;

(d) if not, whether Government propose to appoint such a committee for defence services as it does for civil services every three years; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the same?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) :

(a) and (b). There is no dearth of candidates for posts in the officer cadres of the Defence Services. On the contrary, a survey indicates that the number of candidates appearing for entrance examinations continues to increase. It is many times larger than the number of openings.

There is no present evidence to suggest that grade structures or any such other factors are affecting the attractiveness of the Defence Services, which continue to draw some of our most deserving youngmen.

There have been occasional shortfalls in the in-take of officers to the Army, the Navy and the pilot cadre of the Air Force. But these shortfalls do not seem to arise from lack of availability of candidates.

Government are concerned that there should be large scale rejection of candidates out of the very large number of candidates provisionally selected by the UPSC on the basis of written tests. Government are going into the possible causes, and any remedial action that may be called for will be taken.