

(ii) Agreement in 1963/64 between Indian Refineries Limited and Bechtels for technical consultancy and engineering management services in connection with the Haldia-Barauni-Kanpur Products Pipeline

(iii) Agreement in 1964 between Government and Bechtels for setting up Engineers India Limited as a joint venture.

(iv) Agreement in 1965 between Engineers India Limited and Bechtels for technical services, following (iii) above.

(v) Sub contract by Engineers India Limited to Bechtels in 1965 of the process design work of the Madras refinery

(b) No, Sir, but in the case of the Haldia-Barauni Pipeline in which Bechtel and another foreign contractor were associated, some rectification involving substantial additional expenditure appears necessary

(c) The Agreements were entered into after full and proper consideration, and where necessary, were duly approved by the Government

(d) No, Sir

**Strike by O.&N.G.C. Employees**

\*1283. Shri K. P. Singh Deo:  
Shri D. N. Deb:  
Shri Majhi:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that the Employees Union of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission have given notice for general strike from the third week of July, 1967;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

**The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Wel-**

fare (Shri Anoka Mehta): (a) The ONGC Employees Union, Eastern Circle, Sibsagar has given notice of such a strike.

(b) To press for the acceptance of 72 demands such as recognition of the Union, revision of pay scales, payment of bonus, provision of residential accommodation etc

(c) The ONG Commission has already granted recognition to the ONGC Employees' Union, Sibsagar on the 12th July, 1967 and the Project Manager has been advised to inform the Union accordingly. The other demands have financial implications of great magnitude and the Commission is examining them carefully

**Ashoka Hotels Ltd., New Delhi**

\*1284 Shri Bedabrata Barua:  
Shri N. K. Sanghi:  
Shri Y. A. Prasad:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state

(a) whether it is proposed to have some modern equipments for Ashoka Hotels to attain a high standard of efficiency and service,

(b) if so, the cost of the new equipments, and

(c) the extent to which the new equipments will lead to efficiency?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Jaganath Rao):  
(a) Yes Sir

(b) Approximately Rs 17 lakhs

(c) The additional facilities are expected to add considerably to the efficiency of service in the Hotel and provide modern amenities

**Price of Crude Petroleum**

\*1285. Shri G. S. Mishra:  
Shri B. N. Bhargava:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) the posted price of crude petroleum and oil products in the middle east;

(b) the extent of discount given to India by the Middle East Oil Companies; and

(c) the total amount of foreign exchange saved by the country due to this discount in 1965-66 and 1966-67?

**The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta):** (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library See No LT-1119/67]

**Indian Rupee used by U.S.A. in Nepal**

\*1286 **Shri Yashpal Singh:**  
**Shri Marandl:**  
**Shri K. P. Singh Deo:**  
**Shri Bedabratia Barua:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have asked the U S Government to discontinue the use of Indian rupee for local expenditure in Nepal, and

(b) the reaction of the U S Government thereto?

**The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai):** (a) and (b) With the agreement of the Government of India the U S Government have been using, since 1960, a part of their PL 480 rupee holdings for their aid programmes in Nepal. The rupees are used partly for the purchase of goods and services from India and partly for local expenditure in Nepal. The Government of India have recently taken up with the U S Government whether, and to what extent, Indian rupees should continue to be used for financing local expenditure in Nepal. The U S Government is studying the question and further consultations will take place over the coming months.

**Employees of Co-operative Banks**

\*1287. **Shri George Fernandes:**  
**Shri Madhu Limaye:**

**Shri J. H. Patel:**  
**Shri S. M. Banerjee:**  
**Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the salaries and service conditions of the employees of the Co-operative Banks are similar to those of other Bank employees have as per the terms of the Desai Award; and

(b) if not, the steps which Government propose to take to provide relief to the employees of the Co-operative banks?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri K. C. Pant):**  
(a) No, Sir

(b) This is a matter for negotiation between the managements and employees of the co-operative banks. If no settlement can be arrived at between the parties, it is open to the State Government concerned to deal with the matter according to the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

**Guidelines for giving loans to Banks**

\*1288 **Shri Hardayal Devgun:**  
**Shri Shiva Chandra Jha:**  
**Shri Madhu Limaye:**  
**Shri S. S. Kothari:**  
**Shri Yajna Datt Sharma:**  
**Shri P. N. Solanki:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has formulated some guidelines for the private banks to follow in giving loans and advances,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any scheme to facilitate the procurement of loans from the banks by the small-scale industrialists and agriculturists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?