

Expenditure on Capital Equipment

*568. **Shri Mōrarka:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the total amount paid, to different countries on account of capital equipment i.e. heavy machinery purchased from them during the last three years;

(b) what part of the above payment was an advance payment; and

(c) whether any payment was made to any country which was not due on the date on which it was paid?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) A statement showing payments made on account of import of capital equipment for the last three years is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 56.] I regret that we are unable to furnish the information country wise.

(b) and (c). The information is not available.

Warkala Lignite

*569. **Shri Kumaran:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of test-drilling for lignite at Warkala in Kerala State so far;

(b) whether a time schedule has been fixed for its completion;

(c) whether Warkala lignite has been analysed by the Fuel Research Institute; and

(d) if so, the results thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Test drilling at Warkala was started in February, 1957, and so far three bore holes with a total footage of 408 feet have been drilled. Two holes have been completed and the third one is in progress. Lignite has not yet been met with in any of the three holes.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise as the bore holes have not struck any lignite seam yet.

Assam Oil Company

*570. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the total acreage of land leased out to the Assam Oil Company for the purposes of exploitation of oil in Digboi, Naharkatiya, Moran and Hoogrijan areas;

(b) for how many years the above land have been leased out and on what specific conditions, if any;

(c) the total area surveyed or explored upto now and what is the prospect of oil there;

(d) how many wells have been sunk in the above areas and the prospect of finding oil there;

(e) the rate of production of petroleum and other by-products every year from 1947 to 1957 in Digboi and Naharkatiya oil fields; and

(f) what has been the gross value of the above products every year since 1947?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) to (f). A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 57.]

Colourisation of Vegetable Ghee

*571. { **Shri Sonawane:**
Shri Radha Mohan Singh:

Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1414 on the 20th December, 1956 and state:

(a) whether Government have further pursued the attempt to colour