

do so in order to keep pace with the 1200 Defence research projects taken in hand during 1970-71 ?

**RAKSHA MANTRALAYA (RAKSHA UT PADAN) MEN RAJYA MANTRI (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) :** (a) and (b). plans have been formulated for the production of a light-weight bridge and for assault trackway. Competence is being built up for the development of equipment used in detection of Submarines.

**Recommendations of Tariff Commission for Dye-stuff Industry**

91. **SHRI B. NARAYANAN :** Will the **PETROLEUM AUR RASAYAN MANTRI** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Committee has been constituted to examine the recommendations of the Tariff Commission in regard to the dye-stuff industry; and

(b) if so, the composition and terms of reference of the Committee ?

**PETROLEUM AUR RASAYAN MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) :** (a) and (b). No. The Tariff Commission in their report on the dye-stuff industry have recommended that a Standing Committee should be set up to make a detailed assessment of capacity, production, quality, prices, supply and demand in respect of the dye-stuff industry. The recommendation has been accepted by Government and formal orders setting up the Standing Committee is expected to be issued shortly.

**Expenditure on publicity under Nirodh Commercial Scheme**

92. **SHRI DHANDAPANI :** Will the **SWASTHYA AUR PARIVAR NIYOJAN MANTRI** be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for reduction in the expenditure on publicity under the Nirodh Commercial Scheme and for lesser purchase of contraceptives and equipment for intensifi-

cation of Family Planning programme during 1970-71; and

(b) whether there is some relaxation in the efforts for population control ?

**SWASTHYA AUR PARIVAR NIYOJAN MANTRALAYA MEN RAJYA MANTRI (SHRI D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA) :** (a) Expenditure on publicity under the Nirodh Commercial Scheme as well as on conventional contraceptives increased during the year 1970-71 as shown below :

Year	Publicity under Nirodh Commercial Scheme Rs. (lakh)	Conventional Contraceptives Rs. (lakh)
1969-70	25	58.19
1970-71	45	120.00

(b) Does not arise.

**Programme for Modernisation of Indian Navy at Vishakhapatnam Naval Base**

93. **SHRI DHANDAPANI :** Will the **RAKSHA MANTRI** be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the programme taken up at the Vishakhapatnam Naval Base for modernising the Indian Navy; and

(b) by what time the programme is to be completed ?

**RAKSHA MANTRI (SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM) :** (a) and (b). It will not be in public interest to disclose the details of the programme for modernising the Vishakhapatnam Naval Base.

**Forming of a New Alliance For South-East Asia**

94. **SHRI SAMINATHAN :** Will the **VIDESH MANTRI** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a small N. A. T. O. type alliance in South East Asia, complete with men and arms, is being formed;

(b) if so, which are the Commonwealth countries working for the creation of the new alliance; and

(c) whether India will participate in this alliance ?

**VIDESH MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) :** (a) and (b). According to the information available with Government, five Commonwealth countries, namely, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand and Britain have entered into a Five Power Defence Arrangement under which the safety of Malaysia and Singapore is guaranteed against external attack.

(c) India is not a member of the Five Power Defence Arrangement, and has no intention of joining it.

**Reopening of B. B. C.'s Office in India**

95. **SHRI INDER J. MALHOTRA :** Will the **VIDESH MANTRI** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the B. B. C. has recently requested the Government of India for allowing its functioning in India;

(b) if so, whether Government have since reconsidered this matter; and

(c) if so, details of the decision taken in the matter ?

**VIDESH MANTRALAYA MEN UP-MANTRI (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) :** (a) No, Sir.

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

**Enquiry into Reported Shortage of Urea Stocks in Fertilizer Factory, Gorakhpur**

96. **SHRI INDER J. MALHOTRA :** Will the **PETROLEUM AUR RASAYAN MANTRI** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 698 on the 14th December, 1970 regarding the shortage of Urea stocks in Fertilizer Factory, Gorakhpur and state :

(a) whether Government have since received the report of inquiry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter ?

**PETROLEUM AUR RASAYAN MANTRI (SHRI P. C. SETHI) :** (a) and (b) Government have not instituted any enquiry. The Corporation was, however, asked to intimate how the reported shortage had occurred. The report is awaited and as such the question of taking any action in the matter does not arise at this stage.

**Agreement with Japanese Firm for Supply of a Platform for Offshore Oil exploration in Bombay High Area**

97. **SHRI INDER J. MALHOTRA :** Will the **PETROLEUM AUR RASAYAN MANTRI** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have signed an agreement with a Japanese firm, Messers Mitsubishi, to supply a platform for offshore oil exploration in Bombay High area of the Gulf of Cambay;

(b) whether it took six years for making an agreement;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether another firm Messers Tenneco also offered to explore oil six years back on the condition that they will get 20 per cent of the net profit if the oil is struck and the same offer was rejected by Government; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor ?

**PETROLEUM AUR RASAYAN MANTRI (SHRI P. C. SETHI) :** (a) Yes.

(b) No. Following Government policy of "assisted owner operation" in regard to offshore exploration evolved early in 1969, proposals were received from the Mitsubishi Group of Japan and other foreign groups from the end of 1969, after about one year of negotiations. A memorandum of Understanding was signed with Mitsubishi Group in December,