

at Imphal, Jammu and Patna.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Oil Exploration in Indo-Gangetic Valley by Oil and HOEC

1168. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the Hindustan Oil Exploration Company to Collaborate with the Oil India Ltd. to explore the possibility of oil exploration in the Indo-Gangetic Valley;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions of the agreement;

(c) whether the Oil India Ltd. is seeking collaboration of other private companies also in different parts of the country for exploration of new oil fields; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) An offer from Hindustan Oil Exploration Company for exploration of hydrocarbons in onshore areas on a risk sharing basis has been received.

(b) No agreement has been signed so far.

(c) and (d). No, Sir.

Smuggling of Indian Films and Film Cassettes

1169. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that

many Indian films and their cassettes are being smuggled to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the estimated loss on this account in foreign exchange; and

(c) the action taken against the distributors and cassette manufactures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is very difficult to make an accurate estimate of loss in foreign exchange on account of piracy/smuggling of Indian films and their cassettes.

(c) With a view to combating piracy of films and video cassettes, Government in 1984 amended Copyright Act, 1957 providing for enhanced and minimum punishments for offences relating to provisions of the Act. Copyright is a proprietary right. Right holders of film can initiate proceedings against the pirates/smugglers in the court for protection of their rights.

Film Industry in India with National Film Development Corporation as one of the promoters has constituted a body "Indian Federation Against Copyright Theft" (IN-FACT) to combat the menace of video piracy.

Medical Facilities to Retired Public Sector Employees

1170. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the retired employees of public sector undertakings like Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bharat Electronics Limited, HMT Limited, Bharat Earth Movers Limited and Indian Telephone Industries are

allowed to take medical treatment at the hospitals or dispensaries of their respective public sector undertakings; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to take steps to allow retired public sector employees to get medical facilities in those places at nominal rate or free of cost?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). As per the information available with the Government, these companies are extending Medical Facilities to their retired employees from their Hospitals/Dispensaries.

Vayudoot Service between Hubli-Bombay

1171. **SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vayudoot services are operating between Hubli and Bombay via Belgaum; and

(b) if not, when it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Vayudoot has no immediate plans to operate services between Hubli and Bombay via Belgaum.

Registration for LPG with HPC Dealers In Bangalore City

1172. **SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants with various Hindustan Petroleum Corporation dealers in Bangalore city for LPG connections

upto 31st May, 1989;

(b) the year and month upto which the waiting list has been cleared;

(c) whether the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation contemplate to publish the waiting list cleared, agency-wise, once in three months; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) As on the 1st April, 1989 there were approximately 18,100 persons on the waiting list for LPG connections with 21 distributors of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation in Bangalore.

(b) The date of clearance of the waiting lists varies from distributor to distributor. At some locations the waiting list has been cleared upto July, 1989.

(c) and (d). While Hindustan Petroleum Corporation does not publish the waiting list cleared, agency-wise, its LPG distributors are required to display, amongst other things, the following information regarding waiting list at their showroom:

- i) waiting list registration number as at close of previous day; and
- ii) waiting list number and date of last installation done.

Joint Ventures with Canadian Oil Companies

1173. **SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up joint ventures with Canadian Oil Companies in the areas of oil exploration, produc-