

the Sixth Five Year Plan. Government's strategy is to try and discover maximum possible oil in the shortest possible time and plans are drawn to achieve these objectives. There is also the need to conserve this non-renewable source of energy.

It is hoped to produce indigenous crude at the rate of 30 million tonnes per annum by 1984-85 which is likely to meet 70 per cent of the projected demand. No detailed plans have been made for the Seventh Plan period yet. However, while every effort is being made to increase the offshore & on-shore production it may not be possible to predict self-sufficiency in the near future from the presently discovered reserves/fields.

### विश्रामपुर में तापीय बिजली घर

304. श्री चक्रधारी सिंह : क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विश्रामपुर मध्य प्रदेश में जहाँ कोयला बहुतायत में उपलब्ध है तथा देश ऊर्जा संकट का सामना कर रहा है एक तापीय बिजली घर स्थापित करने का विचार सरकार क्यों नहीं कर रही है; और

(ख) यदि प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन है, तो इसे कब तक स्थापित किये जाने की संभावना है ?

ऊर्जा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विक्रम महाजन) : (क) और (ख) सावधानी पूर्वक विचार करने के पश्चात् यह पाया गया कि विश्रामपुर क्षेत्र में उपलब्ध बिजुत् ग्रेड कोयले को भण्डार ताप बिजुत् केन्द्र की स्थापना का औचित्य सिद्ध करने के लिए पर्याप्त नहीं है।

उपरोक्त स्थिति को देखते हुए विश्रामपुर में 2) (310 मेगावाट की प्रतिष्ठापना के लिए मध्य प्रदेश राज्य बिजुत्-बोर्ड से प्राप्त हुए प्रस्ताव पर आगे कोई

कार्रवाई नहीं की गई है तथा मध्य प्रदेश राज्य बिजली बोर्ड को इस बारे में सूचित कर दिया गया है। तथापि, आसपास के क्षेत्र में कोयले के भंडारों का विस्तृत अन्वेषण किया जा रहा है यदि कोयले के उपयुक्त और पर्याप्त भण्डार पाए गए तो कार्रवाई की जाएगी।

### Telephones Service in the Country

305. SHRI P. NAMGYAL:

SHRI AJIT BAG:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that telephone services in the country are very poor;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Minister of Communications agreed with a deputation of Citizen's Council of Delhi who met him on 8th October, 1981, that poor services in the Telephone Department are mainly due to low quality of instruments and accessories, lack of discipline and unqualified staff; and

(c) if replies to (a) and (b) above are in the affirmative, what steps Government propose to take to improve the poor telephone service viz-a-viz to improve the quality of instruments and accessories, tackle indiscipline and to impart training or replace the unqualified staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) No, Sir.

(b) About 40 per cent of the total complaints are due to defects in telephone instruments and house wiring.

The recruitment to the various cadres is made as per the standards of qualification prescribed for each of the type of post and rigorous training is imparted to the recruits before they are put in the field. There is no lack of discipline and action is taken whenever cases of indiscipline come to notice.

(c) I.T.I. has started production of an improved type of telephone instrument coded 677.

Regular refresher training is being imparted to the technical personnel and operative staff to keep them abreast with the latest technology.

Disciplinary action is taken whenever cases of indiscipline come to notice.

#### Exploration Programme of O.N.G.C.

306. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission had undertaken a large scale exploration programme; and

(b) if so, what progress has been made in this regard and where ONGC has discovered oil and when this programme would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) ONGC has since inception drilled over 39 lakh metres and completed 1895 wells in the onland and offshore areas. ONGC has to date found oil/gas in Assam, Gujarat, Godavari, etc. in onshore and in the Bombay High, Palk Straits, Pondicherry, Andamans, etc. in the offshore.

In 1980-81 ONGC attained a production of over 9 million tonnes and the target for the present year is 13.70 million tonnes both for onshore and offshore areas. ONGC's exploration programme envisages further exploration in West Bangal, Tripura, Himalayan Foothills, Rajasthan, etc. in the onshore and the Godavari, Ratnagiri, Palk Straits, Cauvery, etc. in the offshore.

ONGC proposes to continue further exploration work in the Bombay High area, in Palk Strait, etc., where oil has

been discovered by ONGC recently. Exploration is a continuing process and will be continued vigorously to discover and produce maximum amount of hydrocarbons in the shortest possible time.

#### Probe into Newspaper Vendors Demand

307. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the recent stir by newspaper vendors pressing their demand for retention of 30 per cent commission for vending business, Government have caused a probe into the entire price structure of the newspaper industry to determine the reasonableness of the vendors' demand; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, one of the terms of reference of the reconstituted Press Commission relates to "economics of the newspaper industry; newsprint, printing machine and other inputs for newspaper's".

#### Accumulation of Coal at Pitheads

308. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been heavy accumulation of coal at the pitheads;

(b) whether various agencies handling the coal have not been able to distribute the coal to match the rate of production; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to reduce the accumulation of coal at the pitheads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI