

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c). In view of the constraint on resources, the State Government has been advised to effect savings in some other sectors and utilise them for expediting these irrigation projects.

REPORT OF RUSSIAN EXPERTS ON O. N.G.C.

17. **SHRI P. P. ESTHOSE:**

SHRI NAMBIAR:

SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of **PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3559 on the 12th August, 1968 and state:

(a) whether the Government have since examined the report submitted by the Russian Experts on the Oil and Natural Gas Commission;

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon; and

(c) if not, when the examination is likely to be completed and the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI RAGHU RAMAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Oil and Natural Gas Commission has been instructed by the Government to implement the recommendations relating to new areas and techniques for exploration including more extensive seismic surveys, intensification of exploitation of discovered oil deposits, offshore exploration in the shallow waters of the Gulf of Cambay, decentralisation of powers into the regions etc.

(c) Does not arise.

DEMAND BY PAKISTAN FOR INCREASED WATER SUPPLY FROM GANGES

18. **SHRI RABI RAY:** Will the minister of **IRRIGATION AND POWER** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has been continuing to increase its demand on the

waters of Ganga from 3500 cusecs the 49000 cusecs since the last round of expert level talks held in Delhi in May, 1968, and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requirements indicated by Pakistan at the various meetings of Water Resources experts of India and Pakistan are given below:—

Meetings	Demand in April (Cusecs)
Upto First meeting July, 1960	3,500
Second meeting October, 1960	18,090
Third meeting April, 1961	29,352
Fourth meeting Dec. 1961—Jan 1962	32,010
Fifth meeting May, 1968.	49,000

CHEMICAL MARKING AGENT IN KEROSENE OIL

19. **SHRI E. K. NAYANAR :**

SHRI NAMBIAR :

SHRI B. K. MODAK :

Will the Minister of **PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5847 on the 26th August, 1968 and state :

(a) whether Government have since considered the proposal to introduce a chemical marking agent in kerosene oil to enable the detection of its admixture with high speed diesel oil;

(b) if so, when it is likely to be introduced; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI RAGHU RAMAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme is proposed to be introduced on a trial basis in a limited area in the next few months.

(c) Does not arise.

INCOME-TAX ARREARS

20. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:

SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the further steps which have been taken to realise accumulated income-tax arrears;

(b) whether prosecutions have been launched against some of the companies or individuals;

(c) if so, in how many cases; and

(d) the total arrears of income-tax as it stood on the 1st September, 1968 ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE. (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) The following further steps have been taken to recover the collectible arrears of Income-tax as early as possible.

- (i) Taking over of recovery work by the Income-tax Department from the State Governments in respect of all Commissioners' Charges.
- (ii) Creation of more Special Recovery Units;
- (iii) Greater emphasis on collection of demands created during the current year;
- (iv) Closer supervision over recovery of arrear demand.
- (v) Further improvement in the Functional Distribution Scheme with special emphasis on collection work.
- (vi) Appointment of one Assistant Commissioner each at Calcutta and Bombay exclusively for guiding and supervising the work of Tax recovery Officers in those two cities.

(b) and (c). Section 76 of the Second Schedule of the Income-tax Act empowers the Tax Recovery Officer to make an order of detention of the defaulter in civil prison. There is, therefore, no provision for prosecution of the defaulter.

Prosecutions have been launched against Companies and other employers who have deducted taxes from the salaries of their employees but not deposited them to the credit of Government. Information regarding the number of such cases of prosecution is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(d) The information regarding arrears of Income-tax is available as on 31st March, 1968, on which date such arrears amounted to Rs. 374.51 crores.

RISE IN PRICES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES

21. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:

SHRI B. F. DASCHOWDHURY:

SHRI N. R. LASKAR:

SHRI R. BARUA :

SHRI HEM RAJ :

SHRI S. S. KOTHARI :

SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI :

SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH
SHASTRI :

SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:

SHRI RAM KISHAN GUPTA:

SHRI HIMATSINGKA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the prices of all essential commodities have gone up during September and October, 1968;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to bring down or check the prices; and

(c) the causes of failure of Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI DESAI):(a) A detailed statement showing variations in the prices of 31 commodities/groups between August 31, 1968 and October 19, 1968, the latest date for which data are available, is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library, See No. LT—2018/68]. Of the 31 commodities, prices rose in the case of 13 items, declined in the case 8 items and remained stationary in the case of remaining 10 items. The increase in the all commodities wholesale price index works out to 1 per cent during this period.