

**Committee for Co-ordinated Study on
effects of Toxic Gas Leakage on
Live Systems**

*95. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have set up any national scientific and medical committee for a co-ordinated study on the effects of toxic gas leakage on live systems ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b) : No, Sir. A proposal to set up a national scientific and medical committee for a coordinated study on the effects of toxic gas leakage on life systems and to give authoritative opinion about appropriate step that need to be taken on the medical and scientific level is being worked out. No decision has yet been taken in the matter.

**Survey of Gas affected Families in Bhopal
conducted by Tata Institute of
Social Sciences**

*96. SHRI MOHAN LAL PATEL :
PROF. MADHU DANDA-
VATE :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a team of experts from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, engaged by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, has conducted door to door survey of the gas-affected families in Bhopal ;

(b) if so, the findings of the team ;

(c) the number of persons suffering from long-term effects of the poisonous gas ; and

(d) the details of help rendered by Government to such patients ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (d) : Yes, Sir. However, this survey has not covered the entire affected area. The complete findings and the analysis of the data collected during the survey has not been received from the State Government, so far.

**Effect of withdrawal of American Firm
"Chevron" on India's Plan to attain
Self-sufficient in Oil and Gas**

*97. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the American firm "Chevron", which under a five-year agreement had contracted for exploration of oil in the continental shelf of Saurashtra, has decided to quit in view of its failure to strike oil and gas in the area after drilling three wells ;

(b) if so, whether it is likely to affect India's plans for attaining self-sufficiency in oil and gas ; and

(c) the alternatives that are being tapped to ensure achievement of self-sufficiency in oil as earlier projected ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Greater thrust is proposed to be provided in the VII plan to exploration and exploitation of oil and gas by ONGC and OIL.

Steps for Higher Production of Paper

*98. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that prices of paper in the country have