

(a) whether all the 17 employees have since been absorbed in Indian Oil Corporation ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, when all these employees were originally recruited by the Indian Oil Corporation ;

(d) whether the employees not absorbed in the Indian Oil Corporation have the represented their case to the authorities; and

(e) if so, the action taken on their representations and when they are likely to be absorbed in the Indian Oil Corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI NARSINGH YADAV) : (a) Twenty-seven, please.

(b) the employees of Bureau of Petroleum and Chemicals Studies (renamed as Bureau of Petroleum Studies) except those who were on daily wages, were absorbed in Indian Oil Corporation and Oil & Natural Gas Commission.

(c) On the Closure of the Bureau of Petroleum Studies its assets and staff were divided between the two undertakings viz: ONGC and IOC as these undertakings were meeting the expenditure of this Bureau.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Since the expenditure on the Bureau was shared by ONGC and IOC, it would not have been appropriate to ask IOC alone to absorb all the employees of the Bureau. No further action is proposed to be taken in the matter.

Paragraphs in News Bulletins of A.I.R.

*507. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the daily morning 8 to 8.10 and night 8.45 to 9.15 min News Bulletins on the AIR contains many paragraphs of Ministerial speeches inside and outside Parliament;

(b) if so, percentage thereof ;

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(c) whether it is a fact that inclusion of such views in the said Bulletins deprive the listeners of important news of India and the world ; and

(d) if so, steps being taken to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (b) A. I. R. news bulletins cover the speeches of Ministers both inside and outside the Parliament on the basis of their newsworthiness. Specified percentages of news bulletins are not allotted for the coverage of any category of news items. The news bulletins referred to attempt to give a balanced presentation of all news of importance keeping in view the need to keep the listeners well informed.

Proposals from State Governments for Super Thermal Power Stations

*508. SHRI U.S. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) how many State Governments have submitted proposals for super power thermal plants and how many of them have been accepted;

(b) whether the Government of Maharashtra have sought permission to raise furnace for super power thermal station on the basis of bilateral agreement with international finance agencies of foreign countries ; and

(c) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMCHANDRAN) :

(a) The following project reports for the setting up of large sized thermal power stations (involving installation of 1000 MW and above) have been received in the Central Electricity Authority (C.E.A.) from the State Governments/Electricity Board of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Bihar. The clearance of the projects will depend on the techno-economic appraisal by the C.E.A. keeping in view the most economic options available for meeting the power demand, and on identification of resources.