

(iii) extension of sale of LPG being confined to the markets in close proximity to the existing ones.

Processing of Bombay High Crude

2160. SHRI N K SANGHI:
SHRI B V. NAIK.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state

(a) whether processing of the Bombay High crude has posed some technical problems which may call for an examination of the desirability of restructuring the oil industry particularly its processing mechanism,

(b) if so, the nature of difficulties now being experienced and whether these are likely to affect production of crude from Bombay High; and

(c) the steps proposed to deal with them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): (a) Bombay High Crude is at present being processed in Bharat Refineries. As Bharat Refineries was designed to process imported Middle East crudes, and Bombay High crude has some characteristics different from those of the imported crudes, processing of this crude in this Refinery poses certain problems. To overcome these problems the Refinery needs to make certain adjustments in operation, and also addition of certain facilities of comparatively minor nature mainly for receiving, storing and transporting High Pour Point crude, and similarly for handling High Pour Point residual products produced from this crude. These modifications and changes are presently underway, and do not call for any restructuring of the oil industry.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Issue of Railway Tickets

2161. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railway tickets are issued subject to availability of accommodation in the train and persons unable to find accommodation can surrender their tickets at the stations; and

(b) if so, the procedure followed for refunding the amount in such cases?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b). Tickets are issued subject to availability of accommodation in the trains. Persons unable to get accommodation can surrender their tickets at the station within three hours after the departure of the train and obtain full refund of fares.

O & N.G.C. Agreement with Dutch Company for laying Pipeline

2162 SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has finalised negotiations with a Dutch Company for laying of the submarine pipeline for transportation of oil and gas produced from the Bombay High and Bassein offshore oil fields; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the agreement signed in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): (a) and (b). The ONGC has signed a contract with a Dutch Company for a pipe-lay cum derrick barge at an approximate cost of Rs. 21.74 crores. This vessel is scheduled to be delivered in the Bombay Off-shore Area towards the end of 1977. It will be

used by ONGC for laying submarine flow lines and pipelines for transportation of oil and gas.

Electrification of Railway Lines in Tamil Nadu

2163 SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) which are the railway lines in Tamil Nadu under the different stages of electrification;

(b) the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) when are these expected to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c).

Name of Electrification schemes in Tamil Nadu	Percentage progress as on 30-6-1976	Target for completion
1. Madras-Bavur as part of Madras-Gudur Electrification Scheme	27.56	1979-80
2. Madras-Trivellore	2.87	1979-80

Oil Companies in Public and Private Sectors

2164 SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) how many oil companies are there in the country in the public sector and in the private sector, and

(b) out of them, how many are engaged in refining and marketing and how many in marketing operations only?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI

ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): (a) There are 10 Oil Refining and/or Marketing Companies in the country out of which 8 are in public sector and 2 in the private sector.

(b) 5 companies are engaged both in refining and marketing, 2 in refining and one in marketing only. One refinery company, namely Bongaigaon Refinery and Petro-chemicals Limited is in the construction stage and one marketing company, namely Bitumen Marketing Corporation Limited has yet to commence commercial operations.

Menace of Chain Pulling

2165 SHRI R. N. BARMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the areas where chain pulling still continues to be a menace to Railways,

(b) the names of the regions which are prone to rail dacoities; and

(c) what steps are being taken to deal with these problems?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Sections which are generally prone to alarm chain pulling are shown in Statement 'A'.

(b) Statement B is enclosed.

(c) Steps taken to combat alarm chain pulling are as under:—

(i) Posting of plain clothed TTEs and Railway Protection Force/Government Railway Police personnel in trains;

(ii) Conducting surprise checks by anti-alarm chain pulling squads, consisting of TTEs and Railway Protection Force personnel;