

(b) whether steps are proposed to be taken urgently to restore all these services?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b). Out of six pairs of trains scheduled to run on Katpadi-Tirupati-Renigunta section, three pairs of trains at present stand cancelled fully and one pair of trains partially. On Pakala-Dharmavaram section, out of two pairs of trains scheduled to run, one pair stand fully cancelled because of coal shortage. Restoration of these trains will be considered only when the loco coal position improves and stabilises at a reasonable level.

Plan for Expansion of Trombay Fertilizer Plant

1081. **SHRI R. S. PANDEY:**

SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA:

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

(a) whether Government have approved expansion plan of the Trombay Fertilizer Plant; and

(b) if so, the broad feature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The expansion of the Trombay plant will be effected in two stages, known as Trombay IV & V. The Trombay IV scheme envisages production of 361,000 tonnes per annum of nitrophosphates at an estimated cost of Rs. 44 crores, including a foreign exchange component of Rs. 19 crores. This is a World Bank aided project and is scheduled to go into production in early April, 1977.

The Trombay V scheme envisages production of 900 tonnes of ammonia per day at an estimated cost of Rs. 111 crores, including a foreign exchange component of Rs. 28 crores. The project is expected to go into production in April, 1978.

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Former President's Views on Railway Strike

1082. **SHRI A. K. GOPALAN:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn into the criticism made by former President of India Shri V. V. Giri about the non-acceptance of President's advice to Railway Minister regarding the Railway strike;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the reasons for non-implementation of the advice of the President?

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

(b) and (c). After the strike was called off unconditionally, Government took sympathetic view of the cases and decisions taken in the matter of taking back to duty the staff whose services had been dispensed with and in the matter of condonation of break in service as a result of their absence during the strike have been in the process of implementation since then with all possible promptitude.

Setting up of More Drilling Platforms in Bombay High

1083. **SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up more drilling-cum-production platforms in the Bombay High Off-shore where the possibilities of securing oil have brightened;

(b) if so, the number of platforms proposed to be set up and whether these platforms are to be set up with the foreign collaboration; and

(c) if so, broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) to (c). For the present ONGC proposes to instal one drilling-cum-production platform on the Bombay High structure and produce oil in the quickest possible time. It is still too premature to forecast the number of drilling-cum-production platform that would need to be installed on Bombay High structure

Movement of High-rated Traffic to Increase Earnings

1084. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH GILL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board is taking several measures to step up the movement of high-rated traffic to increase its earnings; and

(b) if so, the nature of steps being taken and time when these steps will be taken?

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

(b) The Railways have already taken the following steps which are of continuous nature, to attract high-rated traffic:—

- (i) The Marketing & Sales Organisation on each Zonal Railway maintains liaison with principal manufacturers and traders to improve the quality of service, conducts market surveys and takes steps to arrest diversion of rail traffic and attract additional traffic to the Railways;

(ii) Introduction and development of container services and freight forwarder services which provide an integrated door-to-door service.

(iii) Running of super express goods trains between important cities to a fixed timetable to provide speedy transport of goods.

(iv) Provision of "Quick Transit Service" between important cities under which goods are carried within a fixed target time.

(v) Movement of selected high-rated commodities on higher priority.

(vi) Quotation of competitive station to station rates

Foreign Firms in West Bengal

1085. SHRI R. N. BARMAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of foreign firms in West Bengal whose terms of operation had expired on the 31st August, 1974;

(b) names of foreign firms which have applied for extension of time;

(c) what were the (i) profit repatriation, (ii) progressive dilution of equity shares, (iii) indianisation of staff and (iv) fresh investment made and employment offered by these firms; and

(d) the decision taken by Government in this matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDA-BRATA BARUA): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and it will be laid on the Table of the House.