

difficulties and resource constraints. No train by the name of Moon Express runs on Indian Railways. However, there is a train Muri Express and presently there is no proposal for its being speeded up.

271
Non-conventional Energy Sources
Harnessing Solar and Wind Energy Sources in Rajasthan

4442. **SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MEWAR:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the feasibility status of SOLAR POWER generation in conjunction with hot air turbines; and

(b) what practical and feasible technology, national and international, available or will be available in the near future for the setting up pollution free generation of Alternate sources of power?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources is aware of scientific proposals for such techniques of power generation by Solar energy. However, at present these techniques are under conceptual stage.

(b) Technologies based on Solar thermal, Solar photovoltaic, wind, microhydel and ocean energies are presently available for generation of pollution free electric power. Research within the country as well as outside is continuing to make these more acceptable economically.

[Translation]

271-72
Alleged Irregularities in Appointments in Moradabad Division

4443. **HAJI G. M. KHAN:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of irregularities in appointments to Class III and Class IV posts in Moradabad division of Northern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the remedial measures adopted in this case; and

(d) the action taken against the officers involved in these irregularities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) to (d) Information for the last two years ending 31st July, 1990 is being collected from the Northern Railway and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English] *272*

Production of Motor Spirit from Industrial Alcohol

4444. **SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to produce motor spirit from industrial alcohol to save foreign exchange drain due to increase in consumption of petrol; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation] *272-73*
54/5/1073

Promotions of SC/ST Officials in Railways

4445. **SHRI HEERA BHAI:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees and officers of the Railways sent abroad for training during 1987-89 and the number of those out of them belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes;

(b) the number of railway officers went on deputation during 1987-89 and the number of those out of them belonging to SC/ST;