

WAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of private firms having book stalls on the Railway stations in the country;

(b) the number of book stalls owned or operated by each firm; and

(c) the total revenue to Government from such firms, firm-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) 41 firms (This figure does not include the contracts given to individuals as distinct from firms).

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Libaray. See No. LT-4398/73.*]

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Import of Crude Oil from Persian Gulf

2142. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

DR. H. P. SHARMA:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to import crude oil from the Persian Gulf States; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). There are proposals in this regard to establish alternative sources of crude oil. It is premature at this stage to indicate details thereof. Arrangements have already been made to purchase certain quantities of crude oil from Iraq.

Death of Railway Workers due to Public Agitation

2143. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Railway workers who died as a result of public agitations unconnected with Railway working during 1972;

(b) whether Government have given any compensation to the workers who died as a result thereof; and

(c) if so, the amount thereof and if not, the reason thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) One Railway employee working in the Cabin at Nidubrolu Station on the South Central Railway, died of injuries sustained on 22nd November, 1972 as a result of his Cabin being set on fire by the agitators.

(b) and (c). *Ex-gratia* relief to the extent of Rs. 8,650 has already been paid to the family of the deceased from the Railway Minister's Welfare and Relief Fund and other funds operated on the Zonal Railways. The case regarding payment of compensation for a sum of Rs. 9,000 to the dependents of the deceased employee is being processed actively and the amount will be deposited with the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation shortly.

Supply of Light Diesel Oil

2144. SHRI MADHURYA HALDAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether apart from fixing quotas of States for the supply of light diesel oil, Government supply light diesel oil to some industries or organisations directly;