

Haldia Refinery, and

(b) if so, the total refining capacity at present?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): (a) and (b) With the commissioning of the Haldia Refinery having a capacity of 2.5 MTPA, the refining capacity in the country has reached the level of 27 million tonnes per annum.

Foreign Contractors for Searching On-shore Oil

2082. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign contractors are being awarded contracts for searching onshore oil;

(b) whether necessary equipment and technical hands are not available in the country;

(c) the number of contracts entered into with foreign contractors and the foreign exchange involved; and

(d) whether Government have invited tenders for these contracts from the Indian contractors?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Performance of Erstwhile Burmah Shell Company

2083. SHRI H. N. MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an improvement in the performance of the erstwhile Burmah Shell Company after

it has been taken over by Government;

(b) whether there has been an increase in its production rate; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): (a) to (c). The Company was taken over by the Government of India on 24th January, 1976. The current allocation of crude to the Refinery is at the annual rate of 3.75 million tonnes as compared with the total of 3.53 million tonnes processed in 1975. The production of petroleum products is correspondingly higher this year.

However, the level of crude intake and the pattern of production at each refinery are determined by Government in the light of the country's demand and the regional requirements.

Unmanned Railway Level Crossings in Punjab

2084. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of unmanned Railway level crossings in Punjab,

(b) the total number of accidents occurred at the unmanned railway crossings in Punjab during the last one year; and

(c) whether any steps are being contemplated to reduce the number of unmanned railway crossings in the State?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) There are 1,168 unmanned level crossings (including cattle crossings) in the State of Punjab.

(b) Five train accidents took place at these unmanned level crossings during 1975-76.