

and Company, Edinburgh regarding
Hiring of Drill Ship Dalmabody; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI
ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): (a)
Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not in the public interest
to disclose the facts at this stage.

Fall in the number of Railway Passengers

2177. SHRI R. S. PANDEY: Will the
Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to
state:

(a) whether there has been fall in
the number of railway passengers
during 1975-76 as compared to 1974-
75; and

(b) if so, the figures thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
BUTA SINGH): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

**Setting up of an Institute of Reservoir
Studies by O&NGC**

2178. SHRI R. S. PANDEY: Will the
Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased
to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural
Gas Commission has decided to set-up
an Institute of Reservoir Studies at
Ahmedabad; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of
functions of the Institute?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI
ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): (a)
Yes, Sir.

(b) The main objectives of this
Institute would be the development
of—

(i) secondary and tertiary recovery
processes;

(ii) well stimulation techniques
and ways to solve other wellbore
problems for improving productivity
of oil and gas wells;

(iii) numerical reservoir simula-
tions and other reservoir engineer-
ing tools for use in better exploita-
tion of oil and gas fields;

(iv) procedures for collection and
analysis of reservoir rock and fluid
data for reservoir analysis;

(v) basic research required to sup-
port the specific field applications;

(vi) designing and supervision of
actual field pilot tests for secondary
and tertiary recovery processes
developed at the Institute;

(vii) reservoir analysis studies
related to specific reservoir prob-
lems of high importance to the
Commission; and

(viii) capabilities to render advice
to operations personnel in reservoir
engineering and related activities;

Report of the Oil Pricing Committee

2179. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will
the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleas-
ed to state:

(a) whether the final report of the
Oil Pricing Committee has been sub-
mitted to Government;

(b) whether any representations
were received by the Oil Pricing
Committee regarding adjustments and
modifications in the pricing scheme
which was given effect from July 15,
1975; and

(c) if so, facts thereof?

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

(b) The oil companies have submitted representations to the Oil Prices Committee, seeking certain adjustments and modifications to the existing pricing scheme brought into effect from 14th July, 1975.

(c) It is not in the public interest to divulge the contents of these representations, which are under consideration of the Oil Prices Committee. The final report of the Committee is awaited.

New Company in Public Sector

2180. SHRI P. GANGADEB Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state-

(a) whether a new company has been set up in public sector under the Ministry of Railways for undertaking major railway construction projects; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

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

(b) This public sector company will bid for construction of railway projects, particularly in foreign countries where heavy investment has been programmed in the Railway sector in the next few years

Implementation of Agreement reached before ending Barauni-Garhara Railway Strike

2181. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been an agreement signed by the then Minister

of Labour and President of Samastipur Division of Majdoor Sabha stipulating certain points, resulting in the end of the 33 day old strike and total resumption of duty by railway employees of Barauni-Garhara area on 29th April, 1971;

(b) whether in accordance with those agreed points, break-in-service, removal from service etc., were withdrawn but withdrawal of cases from courts and granting of project allowance according to the Board Award on Farakka area remain to be fulfilled; and

(c) if so, when are these to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c). No written agreement was signed by the then Minister of Labour in regard to the action to be taken against railway employees who participated in the illegal strike in Barauni-Garhara area in March-April, 1971. However, on 25-4-1971, the Labour Minister made an appeal drawing the attention of the striking employees to the assurance given by the then Minister of Railways on 7-4-1971 that "the Ministry of Railways has never subjected and will not subject the striking staff to any victimisation, and that the normal course of law will follow in cases of railway employees who may have been apprehended for breach of law, intimidation and violence".

Break in service caused by participation in the illegal strike in Barauni-Garhara area was condoned and all suspension orders were revoked. There was no case of dismissal or removal from service in connection with that strike.

There has been no commitment that all prosecution cases will be withdrawn, but on the other hand, as pointed out earlier, the Minister for Labour had clearly stated that "the normal course of law will follow in