

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) A preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic survey for a new MG line from Dauram Madhepura to Singheshwar Asthan was carried out in 1974-75. The project was not found to be financially viable.

(b) In view of the severe constraint of resources and heavy commitments in hand, the consideration of the proposal had been pending till resources position improves.

Thermal Power Units for Kerala

4937. **SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up two thermal power units in Kerala ;

(b) whether the site selection has been done ; and

(c) if so, when are these likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) to (c) There is a proposal to set up a thermal station in Kerala in the State sector with an initial capacity of 2×210 MW. A site has not been selected so far.

Membership and meetings of National Council for handicapped during 1984-85

4938. **SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :** Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the membership of the National Council for the Handicapped ;

(b) how many meetings of the Council were held in 1984-85 and the action taken on the decisions arrived at in those meetings;

(c) the membership of the Central Advisory Committee on Employment of Handicapped and how many times this

Committee did the monitoring of the reservation orders for employment of handicapped in various Ministries/Departments during 1984-85 and the result thereof ; and

(d) the total amount available in the National Handicap Welfare Fund and how this money is being utilised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRA-SEKHAR) : (a) The tenure of the National Council for the Handicapped Welfare is already over and the Council is being reconstituted. The membership of the Council which was set up in March 1983 is given in Annexure-I laid on the Table of the house [placed in Library See No. LT-1103/85].

(b) The last meeting of the council was held on 29th Nov. 1983 and no meeting could be held in 1984.

(c) The tenure of the Central Advisory Committee on Employment of Handicapped is also over and it is being reconstituted. The membership of the Central Advisory Committee on Employment set up in October 1982 is given in annexure II. [Placed in Library See No. LT-1103/85].

The Committee met on 20 March 1984 and reviewed the performance of various Ministries/Departments and Central Public Sector Undertakings in giving employment meeting is given in annexure III. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-1103/85].

(d) A sum of Rs. 1.16 lakhs is available in the National handicapped Welfare Fund. The money will be utilised after the Fund has sufficient corpus for supporting various activities for the welfare of the handicapped.

Retiring rooms occupied by Railway officials

4939. **SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that at Dhanbad Railway Station on the Eastern Railway most of the beds and rooms of first