

trains on the Section will cause repercussion on freight movement.

#### **Wages of Coolies**

643. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to increase the wages of coolies in Railways, if so, whether Government have received any representation in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) and (b). Some representations regarding increase of portage charges had been received. The portage charges are so prescribed as to ensure that the wages of porters are, by the large, equal to those of the unskilled labourers of the area as fixed by the State Government. These charges are reviewed every two years and increased wherever found justified.

#### **Supply and Demand of Petroleum Products**

644. SHRI RAMDAS SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the Gulf War, the difference between supply and demand of diesel and other petroleum products has considerably increased during January and February, 1991;

(b) if so, the month-wise details; and

(c) the steps the Government have taken or proposed to be taken to meet this gap?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise in view of (a) above.

#### **Potable Water Supply to Dhori Coalfield**

645. SHRI RAMDAS SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for supply of potable water to Dhori Coalfield under Central Coalfields Limited is lying suspended over the years;

(b) if so, the year when this scheme was taken up, cost incurred on it so far and the areas to which drinking water has been supplied and to which it is proposed to be supplied under this scheme and the reasons for delay in completing it; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the authorities responsible for delay in non-execution of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI KALYAN SINGH KALVI): (a) to (c). The Dhori Water supply scheme was taken up in 1980-81 and it was commissioned in 1987. An amount of about Rs. 50 lakhs was spent on this scheme. On an average about 5.5 lakh gallons of potable water per day is being supplied from this scheme to the residential colonies of Dhori, New Selected Dhori and Tarmi Collieries and New Central Colony location in Dhori Area. Completion of this scheme was delayed due to the failure of the contractor for which suitable penalty was imposed on him.