

Slack wax is released only to registered processors. Presently, there are 252 such processors in the country. In view of limited availability and high demand on the basis of assessed capacities, the releases of slack wax ex-Barauni are made to each of the processors following a cyclic order. Release of IN Grade slack wax ex-Haldia is made to 8 parties with whom long term agreements have been signed. The slack wax available ex-MRL is being uplifted by some of the registered slack wax processors in Southern region on a historical basis

The Haldia Refinery also produces BN Grade slack wax which is used for producing Microcrystalline wax and petroleum jellies. In 1989-90, the production of this grade was 2270 MT. For this grade agreements have been signed with 7 parties.

Railway Line from Hazipur to Sugauli

5137. SHRIMATI USHA SINHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to construct a railway line from Hazipur to Sugauli in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Hazipur is already connected with Sagauli by rail via Muzaffarpur.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Increase in fare by Indian Airlines

5138. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines propose to increase its fares;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the increase would be in proportion to the increase in the fuel price; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (d). Indian Airlines has, with effect from the 11th of April, 1990, increased the total domestic rupee fare by 15.7% in the form of fuel surcharge. This increase is in proportion to the increase in fuel prices.

Supply of Portable Steel Bridges to Bangladesh

5139. SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEK HAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government propose to supply portable steel bridges to Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the amount of export order involved; and

(c) whether payment will be made in rupees or dollars?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir, by Indian Railway Construction Company (IRCON).

(b) The export order is valued at 2.12 million US Dollars.

(c) The payment will be made in US Dollars.