from the Northern Grid. This was besides the [7 assistance provided to Bihar from the Cen 3 $\dot{\omega}$ tral Sector stations in the Eastern Region.

[English] 139

Import of Crude Oll from Middle East

3177. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

 (a) whether about four lakh tonnes of crude oil has been imported from some countries of Middle East during this month;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of countries from which this has been imported;

(c) the arrangement of these supplies and payments made thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to get some more supplies from some more countries of Middle East; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURU-PADASWAMY): (a) to (e). Planned imports crude oil for the month of August are more than one million tonne including imports from the middle east countries. These imports are made both under term contract with the National Oil Companies of oil producing countries and through purchases under spot market. Payments are made in accordance with the terms of payment as agreed to under various contracts. Efforts are being made to get additional guantities of crude oil from various oil producing countries including the middle cast countries to meet the shortfall of crude oil because of recent develcoments in the middle east. It will take some time before the final outcome of those efforts is known.

[Translation] Manmad-Aurangabad Rallway Line

3178. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of RAIL-WAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on Manmad-Aurangabad-Parbhani railway line has begun;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard so far;

(c) if not, the difficulties being faced in the commencement of this work;

(d) the amount likely to be incurred thereon; and

(e) when the said railway line is likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 65.1% of the work has been completed upto 30.6.1990 on Manmad-Aurangabad portion.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Rs. 148 crores approximately.

(e) The conversion work for Manmad to Aurangabad is planned for completion during 1991-92. However, no target date has been fixed for completion of the balance portion of this project.

[English]

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Ekiakhi-Balurghat Railway Line

3179. SHRI PALAS BARMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: