

rigging in certain constituencies in connection with the last Lok Sabha poll; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and action proposed to be taken thereon?

**THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN):** (a) A telegram was received by the Election Commission on 18th March, 1977 from S/Shri Prafulla Chandra Sen, Jyoti Basu, Bijoy Singh Nahar, Makhan Paul and Ashok Ghosh alleging massive rigging in several Parliamentary Constituencies in West Bengal in the recent general election to the Lok Sabha, and demanding re-poll.

(b) The Election Commission had received reports from the Returning Officers of 8 Parliamentary Constituencies in West Bengal that the poll in 30 polling stations had been vitiated by violence and accordingly as provided in section 58(2)(a) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Commission declared the poll at those polling stations to be void and directed a fresh poll to be taken in five polling stations on the 19th March, 1977 and in the remaining polling stations on the 20th March, 1977.

**Rigging in Barrackpore, Katwa, Dum Dum and other Constituencies**

21. **SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news published in leading newspapers in West Bengal on rigging in Barrackpore, Katwa, Dum Dum and other constituencies resorted to by the ruling party in West Bengal in the last Lok Sabha poll; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

**THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Election Commission had received reports from the Returning Officers of 8 Parliamentary Constituencies in West Bengal that the poll in 30 polling stations had been vitiated by violence and accordingly as provided in section 58(2)(a) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the Election Commission declared the poll at those polling stations to be void and directed a fresh poll to be taken in five polling stations on the 19th March, 1977 and in the remaining polling stations on the 20th March, 1977

**Provision of Funds for Tirunelveli-Kanyakumari Broad Gauge Line**

22. **SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the broad features of proposals received from the General Manager Construction, Bangalore for provision of funds for the construction of Tirunelveli-Kanyakumari broad gauge line for the year 1976-77; and

(b) the amount sanctioned?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE).**

(a) The Southern Railway proposed a minimum allotment of Rs. 3 crores for this project for 1976-77 for meeting the commitments made in the previous years.

(b) Rs. 3.35 crores have been finally allotted in 1976-77.

**Victimisation of Employees during Emergency Period**

23. **SHRI SAMAR GUHA:** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees belonging to his Ministry who have been (i) dismissed (ii) pre-maturely

retired and (iii) punished by Government during the period of Internal Emergency;

(b) State-wise break-up of such figures; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up an appropriate body to re-examine the cases of such victimised Central Government employees?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) 'NIL' in respect of Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

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

#### **Employees dismissed, retired and punished during Emergency**

24. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees belonging to his Ministry (i) dismissed; (ii) pre-maturely retired; and (iii) punished during the period of Internal Emergency;

(b) State-wise break-up of such figures; and

(c) whether Government will set up an appropriate body to re-examine the cases of such victimised officials?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) (i) Nil.

(ii) 3.

(iii) Nil.

(b) This Ministry has no Branch Offices at places other than Delhi. The information is, therefore, nil.

(c) The officials referred to in part (a) of the question have been retired under the normal rules of review for retention in service after the age of 50/55 years. As such the question of re-examining their cases does not arise.

#### **Proposal to invite Legal Opinion on Laws adopted during Emergency**

25. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to invite the legal opinion of Supreme Court and High Court Bar Associations on the merits of the laws adopted by the Parliament during the period of Emergency; and

(b) if so, the steps likely to be taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Fresh look on Demands of Trade Unions of Railwaymen**

26. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN: SHRI R. K. MHALGI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to have a fresh look on the demands made by the trade unions of the railwaymen during the all India strike in 1974; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). The policy of the Government is to consider all genuine demands that Recognized Federations put forward and examine them in depth in the context of the resources available.

#### **Oil Exploration in Kerala Coast**

27. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any proposal from