

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Rs. 3,37,000/-.

(b) Rs. 13,50,000/-.

(c) No inspection fee is charged by R.D.S.O. for work done on behalf of Indian Railways.

Appeal on behalf of ONGC Employees Mazdoor Sabha

212. **SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received an appeal dated 29th September, 1977 from Shri Sanat Mehta on behalf of O.N.G.C. Employees Mazdoor Sabha;

(b) whether the ONGC Employees Mazdoor Sabha had organised a week long relay fast at the various places;

(c) if so, the main reasons of the agitation; and

(d) reaction of the Government in the matter?

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

(a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Letter dated the 29th September, 1977 from Shri Sanat Mehta, President, ONGC Employees Mazdoor Sabha requesting early settlement of payment of bonus to the employees of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission for the years 1975-76 and 1976-77, was received. The Mazdoor Sabha Workers undertook relay fasts from the 26th September, 1977 to the 2nd October, 1977 in support of their demand.

(d) A settlement has since been reached between the Unions and the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in regard to the payment of bonus for 1975-76 and 1976-77.

Demand for connecting Howrah-Azimganj Junction with Local Trains

213. **SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SANYAL:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a long standing demand for connecting Howrah-Azimganj Junction on the Eastern Railway with fast local trains; and

(b) what is the Government reaction to this demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes.

(b) For the facility of passengers 6 pairs of direct passenger trains including two pairs of express trains between Azimganj and Howrah are available. In addition 3 pairs of passenger trains are running between Azimganj and Katwa/Bandel which also provide connections for journeys for and from Howrah. One direct pair of trains runs between Bazarsau and Sealdah. There is no traffic justification for additional fast local trains between Azimganj and Howrah.

Class IV Appointment in different Division

214. **SHRI GANANATH PRADHAN:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the class IV employees appointed in different divisions of Indian Railways are not recruited from the local areas;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof, and the number of irregularities so far made from 1974 onwards in different divisions of Indian Railways;

(c) what are the present criteria of class IV appointment opportunities to the local people surrounding the concerned division; and