

company as on 31st March, 1977 (before public issue) was Rs. 300. The Company has since gone for a public issue.

(b) The directors of M/s, Bhadrachalam Paperboards Ltd. are entitled to sitting fees not exceeding Rs. 250/- per meeting attended as per Article 100 of the Articles of association of the company. This department has not approved the payment of any other remuneration from M/s Bhadrachalam Paperboards Limited to Shri A. N. Haksar.

(c) In terms of the provisions of section 275 and 278 of the Companies Act, 1956 any person can hold office as director in not more than 20 companies at the same time. A Private Company which is neither a subsidiary nor a holding company shall be excluded for reckoning the aforesaid limit.

Oil exploration in Tanzania

1740 SHRI K PRADHANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether India has agreed to extend its co-operation to help in the exploration of oil in Tanzania,

(b) if so, the details regarding the agreement, and

(c) whether some machinery in this respect has also been asked for by Tanzania Government from the Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H N. BAHUGUNA): (a) to (c). A Memorandum of Understanding was signed in October 1977 by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (T.P.D.C.) on future cooperation in the exploration of oil in Tanzania. This Memorandum of Understanding provides for co-operation/assistance by Oil and Natural Gas Commission

for conducting seismic surveys, for drilling deep wells with an option to T.P.D.C. for purchasing the rig later and for certain training facilities for the personnel of T.P.D.C.

Talcher-Sambalpur Railway Link

1741 SHRI PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any provision has been made for survey of a new Railway link (S E Railway) between Talcher terminus and Sambalpur terminus,

(b) if so, when the survey is expected to be completed,

(c) the length of the said proposed railway-line, and

(d) approximate estimate to be incurred for the purpose of construction as and when it is constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes, a preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for a new rail link between Talcher and Sambalpur has been included in the Railway Budget for 1977-78.

(b) The survey is expected to be completed by March, 1978.

(c) and (d) The length of the proposed rail link will be about 170 Kms and the approximate cost of the project would be about Rs 38 00 crores.

Subsidy to Railway Station Porters Cooperative Labour Contract Society Ltd. Allahabad

1742 SHRI BATESHWAR HEMRAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the basis for fixation of subsidy paid to Railway Station Porters' Cooperative Labour Contract Society Ltd., Allahabad, for performing Parcels handling work at stations falling under Zone No. 1 of Moradabad Division;