

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

(a) Of the four refineries under Indian Oil Corporation some surplus staff have been identified at Gauhati and Barauni Refineries.

(b) The number of surplus staff identified at the above two refineries is as under:

Gauhati Refinery — 155 workmen
Barauni Refinery — 659 workmen

Of the surpluses at Gauhati, 63 workers belong to the Security Department of the Refinery who were rendered surplus from January 1977 as a result of induction of central Industrial Security Force.

Particulars of all the surplus employees are being notified from time to time through Director-General of Employment & Training to the various public undertakings for their possible absorption against the requirement of the said undertakings.

Transportation Staff

2713. **SHRI RAM PRAKASH TRIPATHI.** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the channel of promotion of transportation staff over all Indian Railways Zonewise;

(b) whether it differs from zone to zone; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Change in mode of payment for Crude Supply by Gujarat

2714. **SHRI VINODBHAI B. SHETH:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is thinking of revising the mode of payment for

the crude supplied by Gujarat from 'Tonnage' basis to 'Ad valorem' basis;

(b) whether Government has received any representation in his regard from Government of Gujarat; and

(c) whether any change in the mode of payments will be effected with retrospective effect, if not, why?

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

(a) to (c). The question presumably relates to royalty on crude oil. The rate of royalty on crude oil is fixed keeping in view *inter alia* the sale price allowed to indigenous producers of crude oil at the well-head or the oilfield as the case may be. The rate of royalty on crude oil and casing head condensate was enhanced from Rs 15/- per tonne to Rs. 42/- per tonne with effect from 8th September, 1976.

The Government of Gujarat have suggested that the rate of royalty should be fixed at least at 10 per cent of the full posted price of analogous Middle Eastern crudes or based on the pooled price payable by Indian refineries. Under the provisions of the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948, the rate of royalty can be enhanced only once in 4 years.

चुनाव विवादों का शीघ्र निपटारा

2715. **श्री सुबराज :** क्या बिधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि -

(क) क्या चुनाव का शीघ्र निपटारा करने और चुनाव व्यय में कटौती करने के लिये कार्यवाही करने का विचार है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो कब तक; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?