

To wipe out the shortfall to the maximum extent possible, a special programme has been launched on the Railways from 1-10-77 and the programme is scheduled to last up to 31st March, 1978 whereafter the results will be known.

#### Drinking Water in Containers.

4494. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in 1970 the Railways introduced the amenity of drinking water in containers in First Class corridor coaches and Third Class sleeper coaches in certain trains but the arrangement was discontinued;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a recommendation was made by Zonal Railway Consultative Committee for making such arrangements on all long-distance trains; and

(c) if so, by when Government propose to re-introduce this scheme?

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

(a) and (b). Yes.

(c) The facility of drinking water in containers was introduced as an experimental measure in first class corridor type coaches and second class sleeper coaches on certain selected trains. Owing to difficulties experienced in maintaining the service satisfactorily and ensuring hygienic supply of potable water, the service was discontinued on certain trains. However, this facility has now been provided on many long-distance trains. Besides, 'In Service' supply of drinking water is being introduced progressively on long-distance trains for the convenience of passengers.

#### G. Ms. Tour for Public Grievances and Suggestions.

4495. DR. BALDEV PRAKASH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the General Managers of Indian Railways undertake tour to listen to public grievances and suggestions;

(b) whether any such tour was undertaken by G. M. Northern Railway in the month of February and he visited Amritsar also to listen to the representations of Trade and Industry; and

(c) if so, whether the local M.L.As. and M. P. were informed about the programme and invited to give their suggestions?

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

(a) Generally, the G.Ms. of Indian Railways do not specifically undertake such tours. However, during their annual and inspection tours they listen to public grievances and suggestions.

(b) During his inspection tour in the month of February, '78, the G. M., Northern Railway met the representative of Trade and Industry at Amritsar, where local problems were discussed in the presence of a local M.L.A.

(c) No, Sir. This will be ensured in future.

#### Allocation of Diesel and other oil to Karnataka

4496 SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARRIFF: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the allocation of diesel oil to the State of Karnataka made during the last one year;

(b) what are the details of the allocation of crude oil for the State of Karnataka during the last one year; and

(c) whether there has been any demand by the State to increase the quota and if so the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA):

(a) to (c). Except for kerosene oil no quotas of petroleum products are allocated on a State-wise basis. Availability of diesel has so far remained adequate in all the States and free sales have been made from the oil companies' retail outlets. No request for increasing the supply of diesel has been received from the Karnataka Government. Crude Oil is used for refining and no allocation thereof is made to any State.