Paymont of Bonus to Railwaymen

280. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: SHRI S. R. DAMANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the decision of Government in regard to payment of Bonus to railwaymen now that the Bhoothalingam Committee report has been received by Government; and

(b) if no decision has been taken, when will this long outstanding question be considered and settled satisfactorily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (b). The Study Group on Wages, Incomes and Prices, headed by Shri S. Bhoothalingam, has submitted its report which is under examination of the Government. The Government are yet to take a decision thereon.

Alleged Corruption in Railways

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Indian Express dated 21st June, 1978 that corruption has become so rampant on the railways that a ticket examiner sometime ago extracted a bribe from a General Secretary of the Janata Party to get a sleeper on a train to Delhi from the South;

(b) whether it is also a fact that after his identity was revealed to the ticket examiner it did not deter him from extracting the bribe and nothing has been done even after the complaint was lodged with the Railway Minister; and

(c) whether it is a fact that there are still a number of clerks manning second class reservation counters who resort to different ways to extract money from the passengers desparately needing a seat or a sleeper on the train by which they would like to travel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (b). No such complaint of a party travelling to Delhi from the South has been received. However, a complaint was received against a TTE collecting an extra charge of Rs. 10/- for allotment of accommodation by 4 Up Frontier Mail ex. Delhi on 24-11-77. Action under Discipline and Appeal Rules has been initiated against him.

(c) Complaints of some staff indulging in corrupt practices in reservation of tickets have come to the notice of the Railway Administration. The drive to contain their activities has been intensified. Stern action is taken against the delinguent staff.

Fransportation of Gas through pipeline from Bombay High to Trombay

282. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the average quantity of gas transported per day through pipeline from Bombay High to Trombay since it started flowing on 11th June, 1978; and

(b) how the gas is being used, to what extent and its commercial value?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILI-ZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) and (b). The associated gas started flowing through the pipeline from Bombay High to Trombay from 12th July 1978. Presently, an average quantity of approximately 0.8 million cubic metres per day of gas would be available. To start with the gas is to be used at the Tata Power Station