

### **Proposal to Double Crude Refining Capacity**

1382. SHRI JANARDHANA POJARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to double its crude refining capacity; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### **Effect of Strike by Iranian Oil Workers on Crude Supplies**

1383. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are seized of the serious situation arising out of the suspension of crude oil supplies from Iran in view of the continued strike of Iranian oil workers;

(b) whether any contingency plans have been drawn up to import crude oil from other countries to make up for the shortfall in supplies; if so, the broad details thereof; and

(c) what other measures are being taken to ensure the continued working of the Madras Refinery, which is dependent on the Iranian Oil only?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is uncertainty at present regarding the likely availability of our balance entitlements of Iranian Crudes during November and December, 1978 under the various contractual arrangements. Following the reported improvement in Iranian crude oil production, constant efforts are being made

to obtain maximum supplies against the balance quantity which was planned to be uplifted from Iran during this period. Simultaneously, the possibilities of importing crude through other sources have been explored. Additional imports of 485000/Tons of crude oil from Iraq have been firm'd up recently. Depending on further availability from Iran, additional crude imports through other sources would have to be organised as necessary.

(c) The availability of crude from sources other than Iran have been re-allocated in order to maintain crude runs at all the coastal Refineries including MRL at more or less planned levels during November, 1978.

### **Demand of Supreme Court Bar Association to Ban Practice by Retired Judges**

1384. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR N. PATIL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the Supreme Court Bar Association has demanded for restoring the ban on practice as a lawyer by the person who holds the office as a permanent judge of High Court and opposed appointment of retired Judges of High Courts to commissions and other positions;

(b) if so, furnish details of the demands/resolutions received by the Government from the Supreme Court Bar Association; and

(c) what is the reaction of the Government to the various demands made therein?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Association has resolved that the attention of the Government and the members of both the Houses of Parliament be called to the necessity

of taking immediate action for removing the words "permanent" and "except the Supreme Court and the other High Courts" from Article 220 of the Constitution. Reference has also been invited to the resolution passed in the General Body meeting of the Association on 1-9-1972 in which it was resolved that Government should also consider the inadvisability of appointing former Judges of the High Courts to Commissions and other positions.

(c) The Law Commission in their 72nd Report have opposed the idea of making any amendment in Article 220. Their view has been accepted by Government. Having regard to the need and availability of suitable personnel, Government do not consider it advisable to exclude retired Judges from appointment to Commissions.

#### New Railway line in Bastar

1385. SHRI NARENDRA SINH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has completed the final location survey for construction of a new railway line in Bastar District of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) expected time by which the line is to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) to (c). Final Location Survey for construction of a new broad gauge line from Dalli Rajhara to Jagdalpur has been completed. The proposed line will be 234 Kms. long and is estimated to cost Rs. 46 crores, yielding a return of 7.97 per cent with diesel traction by DCF method. The question of taking up construction of this line would depend on the availability of resources for this purpose.

12. hrs.

#### STATEMENT RE.

- (i) INCIDENTS IN CONNECTION WITH SAMASTIPUR POLL; AND
- (ii) REPORTED ARREST OF AND INJURIES TO SHRI VASANT SATHE, M.P.

MR. SPEAKER: The Leader of the opposition to make a statement.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Idukki): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I would like to bring to the notice of the honourable House certain appalling incidents that have taken place in connection with Samastipur poll. A Minister of Bihar was arrested; his securitymen were arrested; the jeep in which he was travelling was taken into custody. An MLA belonging to the ruling party was arrested. This has been reported today in the papers. These arrests took place and they have been released. There securitymen of the Minister and two drivers were also arrested. All of them were arrested on charges of forming unlawful assembly, rioting, causing injuries and attempt at murder.

Again it is stated that there were three securitymen attached to the Minister. Normally, one securityman goes round. But, in this case the police were intrigued to find how all the three securitymen were with him at the time of the incident. The jeep that was seized was registered in Delhi; it was the one in which he was travelling. This is what has happened. As far as the Minister is concerned, after one day's detention, he has now been released on bail. All the securitymen also have been released on bail.

Further, Mrs. Premlata Rai, Janata MLA has also been arrested for her attempt to take away the ballot boxes. There has been an allegation there that ballot boxes were attempted to be taken away and attempts were made to capture the polling booths. These incidents have taken place in the past. But this is the first time that even an allegation is made that a Minister of the State concerned is involved in it.