

their recommendations have to be awaited.

Convention of Railwaymen in Railway Club premises, Dhanbad

4002. SHRI BHOLA MANJHI:
SHRI RAMAVATAR
SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Divisional Railway Employees Co-ordination Committee by a letter sought permission from Divisional Superintendent, Eastern Railway, Dhanbad for holding convention of Railwaymen on the issue of eliminating of corruption in the Railway on the 2nd April, 1972 in Railway Club premises, Dhanbad;

(b) if so, the reasons for not granting the permission and the gist of the reply given by the Divisional Superintendent, Dhanbad in refusing permission;

(c) whether Divisional Assistant Electrical Engineers, Dhanbad even though requested by a letter by the said Committee to provide temporary Electric connection for this Convention on 2nd April, 1972 on payment of necessary charges, refused to do so; and

(d) the reasons for such refusal and the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) to (d). Permission to hold a convention on 2nd April 1972 was not sought by the Divisional Railway Employees' Co-ordination Committee from the Divisional Superintendent, Dhanbad.

No Union or Association of Railway employees whether recognised or not, has a right to hold meetings in Railway premises. However, recognised

unions are generally permitted, on application, to hold meetings in Railway premises.

Running of Cinema by contractor in Railway Club and Institute, Dhanbad

4003. SHRI BHOLA MANJHI:
SHRI RAMAVATAR
SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether President, Coal Commercial Recreation Club and Coal Area Superintendent, Eastern Railway, Dhanbad by a letter dated the 3rd February, 1972 sought permission from Hony. General Secretary, Railway Club, Dhanbad for social functions on 10th and 11th April, 1972;

(b) if so, the reasons for not giving them permission unlike the previous years;

(c) what are the Rules and the latest orders from the Railway Board regarding the running of Cinema by the Contractors in Railway Club and Institute and whether these Rules and the orders are being observed in Railway Club and Institute at Dhanbad; and

(d) if not, the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) Yes.

(b) Permission could not be given as it was not considered possible by the Club Committee to permit use of hall by sister organisations affecting Club's own curriculum especially during the Railway Week.

(c) The extent orders are that Cinemas in Institutes are run through Contractors by calling Tenders sub-

ject to the condition that this does not interfere with the functioning of the normal Institute activities. These rules are being observed in Railway Club and Institute, Dhanbad.

(d) Does not arise

Reasons for Shortfall of Production of Fertilizers during 1972-73

4004 SHRI M RAM GOPAL REDDY Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state the reasons for shortfall in the production of fertilizers during 1972-73?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) Fertilizer production during 1972-73 is now estimated at about 11 lakh tonnes of nitrogen as compared to an earlier estimate of 14 lakh tonnes of nitrogen. The anticipated shortfall of about 3 lakh tonnes of nitrogen is mainly attributable to

(a) Power cuts and voltage fluctuations

(b) troubles on the labour front resulting in strikes in some plants,

(c) low capacity utilisation in some of the old and ageing plants because of mechanical failures and other technological problems,

(d) shortage of raw materials and other local problems and

(e) delays in the commissioning of some new projects

High Oil Drilling Cost near Jammu

4005 SHRI M RAM GOPAL REDDY
SHRI N K P SALVE

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) whether oil drilling cost near Jammu has gone very high and beyond expectations,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and

(c) the cost per metre of drilling of the wells there and the average cost per metre of drilling oil wells in other places?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) It is true that the drilling cost of the well near Jammu (Surinsar Well No 1) is much higher than the original estimate

(b) The main reasons for the high cost of drilling are —

(i) Slow progress of drilling on account of the large angle of dip of the formations because of which special care has to be taken to avoid deviation of the well beyond the permissible limits

(ii) The unexpectedly high temperature of the return drilling mud from the initial stages of the drilling which led to quick wearing out of the fluid end parts of the mud pumps,

(iii) Frequent influxes of water under very high pressure to counter which the specific gravity of the mud had to be increased to very high values. This resulted in very slow drilling,

(iv) Milling operations of the bit which had got unscrewed while drilling at a depth of 804 metres

(v) Stuck-ups at various depths and the time taken to liquidate the stuck-ups, and

(vi) Fishing and repair of 13-3/8 damaged casing which is still in progress

(c) Drilling in Surinsar well is still in progress as such the cost per metre of drilling of this well cannot be worked out at this stage for the