

L.P.G. Agencies allotted to unemployed Graduate Engineers and disabled Army Personnel

5445. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed Graduates and Engineers who have so far been allotted L.P.G. agencies by the India Oil Corporation in each State; and

(b) whether such agencies are also allotted to disabled army personnel and to the dependents of deceased army personnel, if so, the number of agencies allotted to such personnel in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Take-over of Nangal-Bhakra Project Railway

5446. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been received by Government for the take-over of the Nangal-Bhakra Project Railway;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken on this demand and the nature thereof; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which the decision would be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a). Yes.

(b) and (c). The proposal regarding taking over the private siding from Nangal Dam to Bhakra (constructed by the Bhakra Project Authority) by the Northern Railway and alternatively the possibility of working the siding by the Railway without taking it over are under examination in consultation with Northern Railway Administration. As the proposal involves detailed examination of a number of complex factors, it is not possible to indicate at this stage, the date by which a final decision would be taken in this regard.

Increase in Passenger Fares and Freight rates

5447. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of occasions in the last three years when the passenger fares for various classes and freight rates have been increased;

(b) the exact increases in the various categories on each occasion; and

(c) the total increase in income on each one of these occasions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Passenger fares were increased on four occasions and freight rate for goods on three occasions during the last three years.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library See. No. LT-6604 174*].

(c) It is not possible to assess the extra revenue attributable to the revision in passenger fares and freight rates because the total earnings in any particular year are influenced by a combination of various factors such as the quantum of traffic, its lead, revision of rates, etc.