

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to cure the lacuna by amendment/fresh reference and to get the stay order vacated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) and (b). On a petition made by the Company under Articles 226 and 227 of the Constitution of India, a Division Bench of the Delhi High Court, by an Order dated the 28th September, 1973 stayed the proceedings *ad-interim*. Subsequently, this stay was extended from time to time, and on the 18th December, 1973, the Division Bench passed an Order making the stay, absolute and directing the Company to file a rejoinder within four weeks from that date. No reasons were assigned by the Division Bench for granting the stay. Since the Company has not filed the rejoinder yet, the Court is being moved to post the case for a hearing at an early date.

(c) It is the contention of the Department that there is no technical or legal lacuna in the reference made to the Commission under Section 31 of the MRTP Act.

(d) Does not arise.

**Negotiated settlement between Railway Ministry and Railway Employees**

9408. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what were the attempts made by the Railway Minister to reach an honourable, negotiated settlement with the Railway employees;

(b) what were the demands of the AIRF and the action committee;

(c) what were the financial implications of these demands; and

(d) whether the Railway Ministry made any reasonable counter offer, and if so, the financial implications thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (d). A statement has already been made by the Minister for Railways on the Floor of the Sabha on 2-5-1974. A copy is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6931/74].

**Fluctuation in Prices of Naphtha for Petro-Chemicals**

9409. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the price of naphtha both for fertilizers and Petro-chemicals on 26th January, 1974;

(b) the changes made in the price of naphtha after that date till the end of April, 1974 for both uses;

(c) the reasons for wide fluctuations in the prices of naphtha for petro-chemicals during this period; and

(d) the names of the major consumers of naphtha in the Petro-chemical sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The prices of Naphtha ex Bombay on 26-1-1974 were as under:

(i) Rs. 252.25 per metric tonne for fertilizer use.

(ii) Rs. 446.31 per metric tonne for non-fertilizer use.

(b) The prices of Naphtha ex Bombay (for non-fertilizer use) after 26-1-1974 were as under:—

			Rs. per M.T.
w.e.f.	2-3-74	—	2320.06
w.e.f.	26-3-74	—	1000.00

(c) The prices of Naphtha for non-fertilizer use were increased to Rs. 2320.06 per M.T. ex Bombay w.e.f. 2-3-1974 to partly compensate the oil

companies for the losses on account of not allowing them to increase the prices of Kerosene, H.S.D. Oil and L.P. Gas to the full extent warranted by the increase in the prices of crude oil. However, taking into account the economics of the units using Naphtha for manufactures other than fertilizers the prices were reviewed and were reduced to Rs. 1000.00 per metric tonne ex Bombay *w.e.f.* 26-3-1974.

(d) The names of the major consumers of Naphtha in the Petro-Chemical Sector are as under:—

- (1) Indian Petro-Chemicals Corporation Ltd., Baroda.
- (2) Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd., Trombay.
- (3) Union Carbide (India) Ltd., Bombay.
- (4) National Organic Chemical Industries Ltd., Bombay.
- (5) Indian Organic Chemicals, Bombay.
- (6) Plastic Resin and Chemicals, Tuticorin.

**Power cut for Industrial and Agricultural Sections in 1973-74 and 1974-75**

9410. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what were the power cuts effected in different States both for industrial and agricultural purposes in the year 1973-74;

(b) its estimated adverse impact on production in industrial and agricultural sectors; and

(c) the magnitude of power cuts likely to be imposed, State-wise in 1974-75?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c). Due to the demand being greater than the power availability in several States, power restrictions of varying nature were enforced in the States from time to time during 1973-74 depending on the position of supply and demand.

While enforcing the restrictions the States have generally given priority to maintenance of adequate power supply to the agricultural and other essential consumers.

Power restrictions would no doubt have affected production in industrial and other sectors, but it is not possible to assess the impact on the production in different sectors due to power restrictions alone since, lower production in the different sectors could be due to variety of reasons apart from the power restrictions.

It is expected that the generating capacity in the country would be augmented by the addition of 2.3 million KW during the year 1974-75.

The nature of the monsoons in the catchment areas of the hydro electric projects would determine the availability of energy from this source. The extent of power cuts in each state would depend on the actual shortages if any, that may prevail.

**Allegedly collection of Money by unauthorised Persons and Police in the Passenger Train on Barwadih Line**

9411. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that certain persons and the armed police in the passenger trains running on the Barwadih line collect money from the passengers without any authority and also harass the passengers; and