

in one industry has been accepted in principle in this Conference.

3. Under the order issued on 25-11-1973 in exercise of Defence of India Rules, 1971, strike is prohibited in Railways services for a period of six months with effect from 26-11-1973. Violation of these orders is punishable as per provisions of the rules.

4. Railway employees who resort to illegal strikes in violation of the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 are liable for punishment.

5. It has been decided to enforce the principle of 'No work—No Pay' to discourage the elements instigating strikes and agitations.

6. All acts of indiscipline will be dealt with firmly.

7 The Grievances Redressal Machinery and Implementation Cell is being suitably strengthened.

8 It has also been decided to recognise the services of loyal workers by grant of extensions, rewards, advance increments for outstanding service. Favourable consideration with in administrative rules will also be given for appointment of children and dependents of loyal workers

Mixing Methanol with Petrol for Fuel Economy

6119. **SHRI P. GANGADEB:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Methanol can be produced from coal, wood and domestic refuse;

(b) if so, whether Government have explored a method of stretching petrol by adding Methanol to it; and

(c) whether tests have shown that fuel economy can be achieved by it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Because of the short supply and high prices of Methanol, no attempts have been made so far to blend methanol with petrol.

Increase in cases of crimes on Eastern Railway during 1973

6120. **SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of robberies, lootings and thefts on the Eastern Railway have sharply increased in 1973 in comparison to 1971; and

(b) if so, the figures thereof and what new steps have been taken to combat them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b) (1) As indicated by the figures given below, while there has been some increase in the incidence of cases of robbery and looting (dacoity), there is considerable decrease in cases of thefts of passengers' property on the Eastern Railway during the year 1973, as compared to the year 1971:—

	1971	1973
Robbery	27	61
Looting (dacoity)	28	37
Thefts of passengers' property	1241	663

(2) The following preventive steps are being taken to check the incidence