

Program of Irrigation and Power projects in West Bengal

2688. SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress of Irrigation and Power projects in West Bengal has been rather slow;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to accelerate the pace of progress of those projects?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c). Some of the irrigation and power projects being executed by the West Bengal Government have taken some what longer than anticipated. This is mainly due to shortage of funds, rise in costs, scarcity of construction materials and delay in receipt of equipment. The projects under execution are now in an advance stage of execution and every efforts is being made by the State Government to accelerate the pace of construction on these projects

Committee for fixation of prices of petroleum products

2689. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA:

SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a high power committee for fixation of prices of petroleum products; and

(b) if so, the composition of the committee and other salient features thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) Government have decided to set up a Pricing Committee to examine and report on the pricing of

petroleum products. The Committee has yet to be formally constituted.

Disruption of transportation of commercial goods due to cancellation of goods trains

2690. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the transportation of commercial goods was disrupted as a result of the cancellation of several goods trains on Northern and North Eastern Railways owing to shortage of coal and wagons during the last year;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) On North Eastern Railway only due to agitation by telecommunication staff, loco maintenance staff, carriage and wagon staff and loco running staff, Station Masters and Assistant Station Masters on several occasions, goods train movement was seriously affected and goods trains cancelled, preventing even loaded loco coal wagons to be carried from transhipment points to different loco sheds on the Railway.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Plan for Co-operative Regional Development of Fertiliser Industry

2691. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a plan for Co-operative Regional Development of Fertiliser Industry is in the offing; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ

KHAN : (a) and (b). While there is presently no plan of the type referred to, the development of fertilizer capacity in the country is made with reference to technological, demand and other relevant considerations. In planning development of such capacity, the views, if any, of State Governments and other agencies concerned are also kept in view.

Manufacture of drilling rigs in India

2692 **SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF**. Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rumania has been the principal supplier of rigs which are being used on various on-shore drilling sites;

(b) whether any decision to manufacture the drilling rigs in India was taken on a priority basis to secure facilities to find new oil fields in quickest possible time; and

(c) if so, the names of the countries which have come forward to assist India, alongwith their terms of agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) Except for the existing collaboration of HEC, Ranchi with USSR for certain capacity of rigs, no other country has come forward so far to assist India in the manufacture of drilling rigs.

Purchase of Goods and Machinery from Foreign Countries for Indian Railways

2693. **SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA**. Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to set up a body to go into the details of the purchase of goods and machinery for use in Indian Railways from foreign countries;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposal and when the report of the body is expected by Government; and

(c) the estimated foreign exchange to be saved by Indian Railways as a result of the implementations of the report ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) There is no proposal at present to set up a body to go into the details for purchase of goods and machinery for use on Indian Railways from foreign countries

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of reply against (a) above.

पिछले तीन माहों में रेलों में खपराहों की घटनाएँ

2694. श्री संकर बहाल सिंह: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) भारतीय रेलों में 31 जनवरी, 1974 तक के पिछले तीन माहों में चोरी, लूट और हत्याओं के कितने मामले हुए और इन सब में कितने व्यक्तियों को गिरफ्तार किया गया,

(ख) क्या रेलों में इस प्रकार की घटनाएँ बढ़ रही हैं, और

(ग) यदि हा, तो उसके मुख्य कारण क्या हैं ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद सफी कुरेशी) - (क) के (ग). सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

पटना जंक्शन स्टेशन पर फय सबा डाउन गाड़ियों का बेरी से पहुंचना

2695. श्री संकर बहाल सिंह : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पटना जंक्शन स्टेशन पर प्रसिद्ध कितनी फय और डाउन गाड़ियाँ धाकी-पारी हैं;