

- (ii) maximum utilisation of the existing production wells; and
- (iii) wider application of economic and highly effective secondary recovery methods.

Not only short term assistance was discussed during this visit. Soviet assistance envisaged is in context of the total Five Year Plan of the ONGC covering, among other things supply of machinery and equipment, deputation of Soviet specialists to India, training of Indian specialists in the Soviet Union, supply of certain sophisticated tools, etc.

Memorandum submitted by Co-ordination Committee, North-east Frontier Railway, Katihar

155. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum had been submitted to the Railway Minister by the Co-ordination Committee, North-east Frontier Railway, Katihar on the 22nd March, 1973, and

(b) if so, gist thereof and action taken thereon?

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

(b) The demands contained in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6153/73].

Such issues are raised from time to time by recognised labour organisations and are settled through discussions in the meetings of the Permanent Negotiating Machinery and the Joint Consultative Machinery at different levels. Further, representations coming from any source, including unrecognised Unions, are given due consideration and action, as is appropriate in each case, is taken.

Whatever demands are presented to the administration are given due consideration with the utmost sympathy. It has to be realised by staff that just because certain demands have been voiced it does not mean that they should be conceded forthwith. Government have to consider the demands taking into consideration factors like financial resources, the framework of the rules and regulations, justification for accepting the demands and the repercussions of their acceptance.

Import of Crude Oil by Foreign Oil Companies from Persian Gulf Countries

156 SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign oil companies have been asked to import oil from their own sources in Persian Gulf countries at the most favourable prices;

(b) if so, whether the oil companies had intimated the new prices of crude effective from January 1, 1974 after the Teheran announcement about doubling the prices of crude by the Gulf countries; and

(c) whether Government had not received any intimation of the new prices of the crude imported under Government contracts from Saudi Arabia and Iraq?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SIAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The oil companies are already doing so

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir.

Construction of Salt Water Barrier at Thannir Mukkom

157. SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state: