

Proposal for taking away offshore operations from O.&N.G.C.

8705. SHRI P. GANGADEB:
SHRI D. D. DESAI:

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

(a) whether there is any move to take away offshore operations from O. & N.G.C.; and

(b) if so, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH-NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Railways to suffer in Diesel Supply

8706. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are to suffer in diesel supply; and

(b) if so, whether its increasing use in the Railways is to be slowed down?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b). The Railways' traction programme during the Fifth Plan takes into account the optimum rate of electrification and maximum use of the available steam locomotives. The balance requirement of power has to be found by resort to dieselisation.

In order to enable the Railways to meet the anticipated traffic target, the railways requirement of diesel oil will be met on a priority basis.

Compensation in Exchange Rate for Import of Crude from Iran

8707. SHRI P. GANGADEB:
SHRI ANADI CHARAN
DAS:

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

(a) whether Iran has indicated that the compensation in the price of crude for exchange rate would not apply to the new transfer price; and

(b) if so, whether India has been disappointed over this stand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH-NAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Black Marketing of Kerosene Oil supplied at Petrol Pumps

8708. SHRI P. GANGADEB:
SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:

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

(a) whether the supply of Kerosene at petrol pumps is not fair in the country particularly in Delhi and Orissa;

(b) if so, whether many unscrupulous persons manage to get a large quantity and sell it at much higher rates; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH-NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Dispensing of kerosene through petrol pumps has not yet been started in Orissa. In Delhi kerosene supplies both from petrol pumps and otherwise are regulated by the Delhi Administration on ration cards.

(b) and (c). State Governments are empowered under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to take action against black marketing or other offences. Whenever report are received to this effect necessary action is taken by the State Governments

**Seizure of Indian Oil Tanker
'Bailadila' by Italian Authorities**

8709. SHRI PURUSHOTTAM
KAKODKAR;
SHRI P. GANGADEB:

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

(a) whether Italian authorities seized the Indian oil tanker 'Bailadila' on the 14th January, 1974 in the Port of Flumicino near Rome;

(b) if so, reasons for the seizure;

(c) whether there was any leakage of crude oil into the sea; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH-NAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (d). In this connection reply given by the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Shipping and Transport to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 676 on 25-2-74 may be referred to.

**U.S. Interest in Extraction of Crude
Oil from Coal in India**

8710. SHRI N. SHIVAPPA:
SHRI P. GANGADEB:

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

(a) whether U.S.A. has shown interest in Indian bid for extraction of crude from coal; and

(b) which other countries have approached Government of India for its exploration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH-NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). This Ministry has not received any proposal from U.S.A. regarding extraction of crude oil from coal. Two Japanese firms, Mitsui Company and Mitsubishi Company have given their ideas to the Department of Mines for the setting up of a coal liquification plant. Tests on Indian coal with the assistance of experts from the two companies are in progress.

Setting up of a High Court at Panaji

8711. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA:
SHRI M. SUDARSANAM:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been urged to set up a high court for Panaji; and

(b) if so, the decision of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is being examined in consultation with the Goa Administration.

**Proposal to Indianise Business of
Lubrication to avoid Import**

8712. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA:
SHRI R. S. PANDEY:

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

(a) whether there is a proposal to Indianise the business of lubrication to avoid its imports; and