

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI).

(a). The crude throughput of Madras Refinery during the period from July, 74 to June, 75, which is the financial year of the Company, is expected to be of the order of 2.46 million tonnes as against the designed capacity of 2.5 million tonnes per annum.

(b). The slight shortfall in the throughput is mainly due to the planned shut-down (which takes place once in two years) in September, 74 and Naphtha uillage (shortage) problems due to shut down of Madras Fertilizers Ltd. The upliftment of Naphtha has, however, now improved.

Disposing of Assets by Burmah Shell before Nationalisation

2844. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM.

SHRI B. S. BHARUA.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that the Burmah Shell Oil Company has been disposing of its assets in the wake of the move for a possible take over of the Company by the Government;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) how will it affect the negotiations for nationalisation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI):

(a) to (c). Burmah-Shell is disposing of some of its assets in India in the ordinary course of business. Burmah-Shell has intimated that the sale-proceeds from the disposal of assets amounted to Rs. 1.08 crores in 1973. These will be taken into account while considering the terms, conditions and all other questions relating to the takeover of Burmah-Shell's assets and operations in India. For the disposal of immovable assets, the Company has to obtain the approval of the Reserve Bank of India under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act.

Decision to restart trains from Alipurduar to Bamanhat/Gitaldaha

2845. SHRI B. K. DAS CHOWDHURY Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to re-start two pairs of trains, which were cancelled due to short supply of coal, from Alipurduar junction to Bamanhat/Gitaldaha of North east Frontier Railway; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay in starting those trains in spite of the fact that coal position has greatly improved in the Railways and he had a so given an assurance that those trains will be re-started after the coal position improves?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) and (b) Two pairs of passenger trains on Alipurduar-Bamanhat section and other services earlier cancelled on the Northeast Frontier Railway have not been restored not on account of shortage of coal but on the basis of traffic justification. However, the Northeast Frontier Railway has advised that the traffic pattern is under study on the basis of which it will consider the restoration of these trains.

Loss suffered during Bihar Bandh on 4th November, 1974

2846. SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss suffered by the Railways during the Bihar Bandh on the 4th November, 1974;

(b) whether any Railway employee lost his life during the bandh; and

(c) if so, the particulars of compensation paid to his family?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) Rs. 17,787/-.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.