

the likely dates of poll to be fixed in respect of elections to all the vacant seats as the dates are fixed having regard to several factors like the need for revision of electoral rolls, pendency of appeals in Courts, the law and order situation, etc. Wherever the date of poll has been fixed, it is indicated in the statements laid on the Table of the House. Placed in Library. See No. LT-8574/74].

Three seats are lying vacant in Rajya Sabha due to the expiry of the term of office of the Members concerned representing the State of Gujarat in that House. Election to those vacancies will be held after the formation of a new Legislative Assembly in the State of Gujarat.

Memorandum Regarding Fixation of Seniority and Pay of Ex-grain Shop Staff of Ex-S.I. Railway

2055. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum regarding the re-fixation of seniority and pay of ex-grain shop staff of ex-S.I. Railway and payment of arrears; and

(b) the reaction of Government thereto?

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

(b) The judgment delivered by the Supreme Court on this issue is being implemented.

Non-Availability of Increased Supplies of Kerosene and Diesel Oil from Soviet Union

2056. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn towards the

news it saying that the Soviet Union has turned down India's request for increased supply of Kerosene and diesel oil;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the supplies which USSR has refused to increase;

(c) its adverse effect on supply position of kerosene and diesel oils in this country; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to meet the situation in case Russia stops supply of these oils?

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

(a). A news item to this effect appeared in the Times of India issue of 3rd November, 1974 (Bombay edition). The Indo-USSR Trade Plan for 1974 has not been finalised yet. Soviet Union has kept India's request for increased supplies of kerosene and diesel oil open for further discussions. Talks for finalisation of the Trade Plan are likely to be held in December 1974, when this item will come up again for discussions.

(b) to (d). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Stoppage of Production in Durgapur Fertilizer Factory

2057. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production at Durgapur Fertiliser Factory has been completely stopped since the 25th October, 1974;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) how much loss has the fertiliser factory suffered as a result thereof; and