

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

(b) Discussions were held with a Brazilian Delegation on the supply of railway equipment, locomotives, coaches, wagons, rails, sleepers and other track material etc. as well as for providing consultancy services in different spheres of railway technology particularly on railway electrification.

(c) The delegation on their return to their country, will be submitting a report to their Government on their impressions and on the areas in which India and Brazil can co-operate in the field of railway technology and obtain equipment, rolling stock and track materials from India. The reaction of their Government based on this report will have to be awaited.

Oil Deposits in Coasts of Andaman and Gujarat

2004. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether oil deposits have been found on the Northern Coast of Andaman and Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the approximate quantity found and whether Government would set up oil refineries in Andaman, Gujarat and Orissa States if not, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) and (b). No oil deposits have been found in any part of Andaman and Orissa; there is no proposal to set up a refinery in either of these areas. Production of crude oil from the Gujarat oil fields is presently at the rate of about 4 million tonnes per annum. There is already a refinery at Koyali to process this crude.

Stalemate in Nylon Spinning Industry

2006. SHRI C. M. SINHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether stalemate in the nylon spinning industry still continues;

(b) if so, the nature of the difficulties of the nylon spinning industry; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to help the industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) to (c). The nylon textile spinning units could operate at capacity utilisation levels of 78 per cent in 1973 and 64 per cent in 1974 mainly due to restricted availability of the main raw material—caprolactam. The indigenous production of caprolactam commenced only in August, 1974 but due to certain teething problems, the production was only about 2,800 tonnes upto the end of 1974. However, the availability of caprolactam is expected to improve considerably this year and the difficulties of the industry in this regard would be mitigated.

Consumption of Petroleum Products for Irrigation Purposes

2007. SHRI M. S. PURTY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the present consumption of petroleum products in the country, State-wise, for irrigation purposes;

(b) whether Government have given any assurance to the Rabi States regarding additional supplies of diesel for irrigation purpose to maximise rabi output this year; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) No separate statistics regarding consumption of petroleum products in the country, State-wise, for irrigation purposes are maintained.