

Offshore Oil Drilling in Ramanathapuram District of Tamil Nadu

8722. **SHRI THA KIRUTTINAN:** Will the Minister of **PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any offshore drilling for oil has been conducted in Ramanathapuram District of Tamil Nadu, and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof and the results achieved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Reinstatement of Railway Employees Charged with Violence and Sabotage

8723. **PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** Will the Minister of **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state:

(a) how many Railway employees out of 440 against whom cases were pending in the courts on charge of violence and sabotage as per reply to Unstarred Question No. 5452 on the 8th April, 1975, were found guilty of these charges;

(b) whether the rest of the Railway employees have been reinstated, and

(c) if not, by what time they will be reinstated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Rigs Working in Bombay High

8724. **SHRI P. R. SHENOY:** Will the Minister of **PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of rigs working at present at Bombay High and the number of additional rigs that will be deployed; and

(b) the time by which oil from Bombay High will come to the market according to the latest indications?

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

(a) One rig 'Sagar Samrat' is presently working in Bombay High and two additional rigs are expected to be deployed there by September—November this year.

(b) while ONGC has to drill a few more wells in Bombay High to assess the production potential of this structure, it is taking action to set up an intermediate stage of production so as to produce oil from there at the rate of about one million tonnes per annum during 1976-77.

Proposal to defer broad gauge line in place of former Martin Light Railway

8725 **SHRI M. S. PURTY:** Will the Minister of **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to defer the construction of the broad gauge line in place of former Martin Light Railway;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when construction work is likely to be undertaken and completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Construction of following new B.G. lines in lieu of the Light Railway Lines formerly owned and run by Martin Burn Ltd, has been approved. The position in respect of each project is as under:

1. Shahdra-Saharanpur.

Construction is in progress. The project is likely to be completed by 1.4.1979.