

Railway Budget for 1975-76. Government's policy aims at maintaining good labour relations. All possible steps have also been taken to ensure that after the illegal strike during May 1974 normalcy is restored on the Railways.

**Delhi Rent Control (Amendment) Bill**

8815. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Works and Housing had ever sought the opinion of the Law Ministry over the proposed Delhi Rent Control (Amendment) Bill; and

(b) if so, when and the nature of opinion given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The opinions were given as and when they were sought and it is not in the public interest to divulge the legal advice given by this Ministry.

**Wagon Orders Pending with Six Firms**

8816. SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that upto 28th February, 1975, wagon order pending with M/s Bridge and Roof was 1639, with M/s Braithwaite 4999, with M/s Burn and Company 2930, with M/s Indian Standard Wagon Company 2791, with M/s Jessop and Company 804 and with M/s Texmaco 4135;

(b) if so, the details of the order given to these firms during the current year alongwith numbers of wagon supplied by them during 1974-75; and

(c) whether any wagon orders have been withdrawn and if so, the particulars and the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The wagon orders pending with M/s. Bridge and Roof and M/s. Braithwaite as on 28-2-75 were 1194 and 3991 wagons in terms of four-wheelers respectively. The wagon orders pending with M/s. Burn and Company, M/s. Indian Standard Wagon Company, M/s. Jessop and Company, and M/s. Texmaco as mentioned in the Question are correct.

(b) No orders were placed during 1974-75 on these firms. The number of wagons supplied by these firms during 1974-75 are as under:—

(Figures in terms of 4-wheelers)

1. M/s. Bridge & Roof	.	363
2. M/s. Braithwaite	.	1365
3. M/s. Burn & Company	.	345
4. M/s. Indian Standard Wagon Company	.	30
5. M/s. Jessop & Company	.	504
6. M/s. Texmaco	.	3428

(c) No wagon orders have been withdrawn after 28-2-1975.

**Supply of Kerosene Oil in Rural Areas**

8817. SHRI ARJUN SETHI. Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise demand and supply position in regard to kerosene oil during the last three years, year-wise, together with its present position;

(b) the per capita demand and supply position of kerosene oil at present in the rural and urban areas and particularly in the State of Orissa; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to make the kerosene oil easily

available at cheap rates in the far off Adivasi, Vanvasi, Hilly and rural areas?

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

(a) Statement, showing allocation and sales for the last three years, i.e. 1972, 1973 and 1974 and also for the period January to March 1975, is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-9635/75.*]

(b) The information is not being maintained on this basis.

(c) Kerosene quotas to the States have been increased since November, 1974. Since then there have been no serious complaints of shortage from the States. Arrangements for distribution of Kerosene Oil in remote and hilly areas are however made by the State Governments. Necessity for making adequate arrangements for this purpose has been stressed and State Governments requested to give special attention to it.

Selling price of Kerosene Oil is controlled statutorily under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The State Governments have been empowered to fix retail selling prices of Kerosene Oil, and to enforce the prices statutorily.

Government have also set up a committee to review the existing distribution arrangements of FOL products and suggest measures for improvement. The main report of the committee is expected within about a month's time.

**Imposition of Statutory Control on Retail Prices of Petrol and Diesel**

8818. SHRI RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to impose statutory control on the retail prices of petrol and high speed diesel oil to end the unauthorised levy of service charge by petrol dealers in the country; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

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

(a) No decision has so far been taken on the subject.

(b) Does not arise.

**Cases pending in High Courts and Supreme Court for more than Three Years**

8819. SHRI RAM HEDAOO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases in arrears in courts are increasing every year;

(b) the number of cases pending before the High Courts in the country for more than three years, separately, High Court-wise; and

(c) the number of cases pending before the Supreme Court for more than three years?