

**Crude Oil Produced from Fields in Assam**

5343. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of crude that is available annually from the oil fields of Assam as at present;

(b) what is the estimated and proved quantity of crude from the oil fields in near future say in 1979-80.

(c) whether Tirupathar in the district of Sibsagar, Assam has also started producing crude, and

(d) if not, when oil will be re-explored from this field?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C P MAJHI) (a) and (b) At present crude oil from Assam oil fields is being produced at the rate of about 3.75 million tonnes per annum and production from these fields from 1977-78 or 1978-79 is expected to be of the order of about 5.30 million tonnes per annum.

(c) and (d). According to information available with the Government, there does not appear to be a place named Tripathar in the district of Sibsagar in Assam.

**Condonation of Break in Service of Employees who took part in agitation in Ajmer Division (Western Railway)**

5344. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had condoned the break in service of all the employees who took part in any agitation prior to May, 1974 or after;

(b) if so, how many employees are still left for condonation of break;

(c) whether the break in service was imposed on the ten employees of Ajmer Division for taking part in hunger fast during August, 1974 and if so, the reasons for imposing the break in service and rule under which it has been done and also for not condoning the same; and

(d) what action Government propose to take in regularising the break in service of these ten employees and how much time will it take?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) and (d) Yes. A group of workers resorted to hunger strike and acted in a manner that resulted in cessation of work. As strikes are banned on Railways this was an illegal strike and break in service of the staff in question was automatic. The question of condonation of break in service of the staff has not been considered so far.

**Railway Catering Contracts for Ladies**

5345 SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHRY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether catering contract/leases are open to ladies also;

(b) if so, how many railway catering contracts/leases are held by ladies at present; and

(c) whether steps are proposed to be taken to increase the percentage of ladies by reserving a fixed percentage of them in the Railway catering contracts?

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

(b) 208 catering and vending contracts are at present held by the ladies on the Railways.