

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

(b) Yes.

(c) Does not arise.

Precarious coal position on Northern Railway

5393. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:
SHRI D. D. DESAI:
SHRI P. GANGADEB:
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal position with Northern Railway is precarious; and

(b) if so, whether some of the trains are being suspended on this account?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No. Northern Railway have coal stocks for 4-4 days' consumption as on 1-4-1975.

(b) 34 pairs of suspended passenger trains have already been re-introduced since 1-2-1975 and the balance 2 pairs will be started shortly.

Increase in expenditure of O. & N.G.C.

5394. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:
SHRI D. D. DESAI:
SHRI P. GANGADEB:
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA:

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

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission proposes to increase its expenditure on acquisition of capital assets exploration and production activities next year;

(b) if so, by how much;

(c) whether the O & N.G.C. has drawn up its plans to step up its

activities, both within the country and abroad;

(d) whether any measures have been initiated in this direction; and

(e) if so, the broad features thereof?

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

(a) and (b) Against an estimated expenditure of Rs. 184.89 crores for 1974-75, the ONGC plans to spend Rs. 255.36 crores in 1975-76 for its exploration, development and production activities for hydrocarbons. This takes into account the Commission's one-whole offshore operations including its overseas operations

(c) Yes Sir

(d) Yes Sir

(e) During 1974-75, the Commission's oil exploration work included:

(i) Geological and geophysical surveys in almost all the States of India;

(ii) exploratory drilling work in Gujarat, Assam, Tripura, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu;

(iii) production of oil and gas from its Gujarat and Assam fields;

(iv) drilling work in Bombay offshore etc.

All the above items of work are planned to be continued during 1974-76. Additionally during 1975-76 the Commission has planned:

(i) exploratory drilling work in West Bengal, Jammu and Kashmir and in Iraq;

(ii) development drilling as a sequel to exploratory drill wherever necessary;

(iii) geophysical surveys in offshore;

(iv) Work towards first stage production from Bombay High.

The Commission plans to produce 5.36 million tonnes of crude oil during 1975-76 against the estimated figure of 4.51 million tonnes for 1974-75.

Supply of crude by U.A.E. to India

5395. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:
SHRI D. D. DESAI:
SHRI PURUSHOTTAM
KAKODKAR:
SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL
BHATIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state whether U.A.E. had agreed to supply crude to India on soft terms?

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

Revision of prices of petroleum Products

5396. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:
SHRI PURUSHOTTAM
KAKODKAR:
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL
BHATIA:
SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:

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

(a) whether his Ministry has carried out any exercises recently to revise the prices of petroleum products,

(b) if so, particulars thereof; and

(c) whether his Ministry is also contemplating of making certain changes in its oil import policy on the basis of the exercises carried out?

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

(a) to (c). An Oil Prices Committee was set up by Govt. in March 1974 to

go, *inter alia*, into the pricing of petroleum products. The Committee has submitted an interim report on 3rd February, 1975. The interim report is under consideration of Govt.

Persons arrested for having committed theft in Sealdah Division during the last three years

5397. SHRI M. S. PURTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the persons arrested by the Railway police on charges of theft in Sealdah Division during the last three years;

(b) the amount of Railway property lost during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken in this regard in this Division?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-937/75]

(b) Value of property (booked consignments) lost during 1972, 1973, and 1974 was Rs. 17,00,534/-, Rs. 16,91,506/- and Rs. 34,86,066/- respectively.

(c) The following preventive measures have been taken to curb incidents of thefts in Sealdash Division:—

(1) All Goods trains carrying valuable commodities in Block loads like iron, cement, sugar, foodgrains, tea etc. are escorted by armed Railway Protection Force.

(2) Supervision by RPF officers has been tightened up.

(3) Close liaison is maintained by divisional RPF officers with Railway C.I.D. Cell of West Bengal Police for rounding up railway criminals.

(4) Armed pickets are posted at plague spots besides introducing track patrolling.