

### Electrification of Ghaziabad-New Delhi Railway Track

1275. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to electrify the Railway track between Ghaziabad and New Delhi during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the progress so far made in this direction; and

(c) the target date for its completion?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b). Electrification of Ghaziabad-New Delhi section is already in progress as part of electrification scheme of Tundla-Delhi section. The progress of electrification of Tundla-Delhi section is 67 per cent upto 31-12-1975.

(c) December, 1976.

### Gas-based Fertilizer Unit

1276. SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE: SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE:

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

(a) whether Government have decided to have gas-based fertilizer units in future;

(b) whether any step has been taken to make use of the gas expected to be available from the offshore region of Bombay High and Bay of Bengal; and

(c) if so, particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) to (c). Adequate data is not as yet available on the quantum of gas likely to become available from

our offshore regions, exact location of such gas and its economic exploitation, as also the places to which the gas could be brought for use as fertilizer feedstock. It is, therefore, too early to take a firm view now in regard to extent to which gas could be used as feedstock in planning additional fertilizer capacity. On the basis, however, of the present assessment of the associate gas likely to be available from the Bombay High, Government have already decided that expansion of the Trombay plant of the Fertilizer Corporation of India (Trombay-V) should be based on gas. The plant will be initially based on naphtha till gas becomes available for use as feedstock.

### Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi

1277. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to restricted supply and higher cost of diesel, the Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi is facing closure; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures proposed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b). It is not a fact that the Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi is facing closure due to restricted supply and higher cost of diesel. The fact is that owing to constraint of funds during 1975-76 the production of diesel locomotives for Railways' own use was limited to a lower number. However, with a view to utilising the available capacity at Diesel Locomotive Works vigorous efforts to diversify production were undertaken which are listed as under:

(i) Production of WDS-6 type heavy duty diesel shunters for Steel Plants.

(ii) Export of diesel locos to Tanzania.