

(c) the powers and functions of the Committee?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour Employment and Rehabilitation (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) Nil.

(b) The Departmental Promotion Committee consists of:—

- (i) Head of Office/Department or an officer nominated by him; and
- (ii) other officers who are familiar with the work of the candidates to be considered for promotion.

(c) The powers vested in the Members of the Departmental Promotion Committee are enumerated in the instructions issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs from time to time *vide* their Office Memoranda No. 33/46-Ests(R) dated 17th June, 1946, No. F.1|1|55-RPS, dated 17th February, 1955, and No. 1|4|55-RPS, dated 16th May, 1957. Copies of which are laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-7274/66*].

Price of Crude Oil

1054. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the working group on oil prices submitted a Report in 1965;

(b) whether it has been strongly urged therein that an investigation into the causes of the high price of crude oil is necessary in order to safeguard the position in future; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) The question of getting price adjustments on imported crude oil has been constantly engaging the attention of Government and during the last

two years, substantial price reductions have, in fact, been obtained.

Linemen in P. & T. Department

1055. Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of linemen employed by the Post & Telegraph Department throughout the country;

(b) their pay scale; and

(c) the number amongst them who have been confirmed?

The Minister of State in the Department of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri Jaganatha Rao):

(a) 17,572.

(b) Rs. 75—1—85—EB—2—95.

(c) 12,158.

Abductions in Delhi

1056. Shri D. C. Sharma:

Shri Bade:

Shri Hukam Chand

Kachhavalaya:

Shri Krishnapal Singh:

Shri Lakhmu Bhawani:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been two cases of abduction of Young married women in South Delhi recently;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Police arrangements in South Delhi are inadequate; and

(c) the steps taken to trace the culprits and the action proposed to be taken to ensure security of life of the residents of South Delhi?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The women have been recovered and two accused persons in each of the two cases have been arrested. Vigorous efforts to trace the remaining two culprits are being