

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Royalty on Crude Oil

*393. SHRI SHANTILAL PURSHOTTAMDAS PATEL:
SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:

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

(a) the rates of royalty paid to different States from which petroleum crude is being extracted;

(b) whether Government propose to set up an Expert Committee to determine afresh the principles of determining the oil royalty; and

(c) if so, by what time the final decision in this regard will be taken?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The present rate of royalty on crude oil is Rs. 192/- per metric tonne. This is applicable throughout the country.

(b) and (c). There is no proposal to set up an Expert Committee. However, the rate of royalty is under review in consultation with the State Governments.

Train from Hazipur to Sugauli in Bihar

*395. SHRIMATI USHA SINHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations for introducing a train from Hazipur to Sugauli (Bihar); and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). No, Sir. There is no request pending for introduc-

ing a passenger service between Hazipur and Sugauli, being circuitous route.

Construction of Tuticorin Airport

*399. SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the Tuticorin Vagaikulam Airport will begin to function;

(b) whether the progress of the construction work is as per target fixed;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to expedite the construction work?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) By December, 1990.

(b) Pavement work i.e. runway, taxiway apron etc. is in progress as per target fixed and is likely to be completed by 31.8.90. The construction of terminal building is slightly behind schedule.

(c) and (d). In response to the tender for terminal building, only one tender was received, and as such it has been re-tendered on 2nd April, 1990. The tender will be opened on 25th April, 1990.

Production in Jogighopa Unit of Ashok Paper Mills Ltd.

*400. SHRI BHOGEN DRA JHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 13 on 13 March, 1990 regarding proposal for rehabilitation of paper mills and state:

(a) the steps being taken to nationalise and re-start production in Jogighopa and Rameshwar Nagar units of the Ashok Paper Mills Limited in view of the agreement between the Governments of Assam and Bihar