

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) and (b). The M.R.T.P. Commission has instituted inquiry against the Company under section 10(a) (iv) read with section 37 of the M.R.T.P. Act, 1969, for alleged price discrimination indulged in by the company for the sale of gases manufactured by it. Notice of inquiry was issued to the company by the Commission on 10th February, 1976 and the inquiry is still in progress.

**Robbing of Passengers**

\*760. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to recent press reports regarding robbing of passengers by a gang of robbers who used to deprive train passengers of their belongings after giving them 'dhatura' mixed with tea; and

(b) if so, facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A gang of criminals who used to develop intimacy with the passengers, offered them tea mixed with 'dhatura' and then deprived the victims of their belongings has been unearthed by Railway Police at Delhi. On 25th March, 1976 the members of the gang administered 'dhatura' in tea to one passenger named Shri Sheikh Mohd. Rafiq and deprived him of his belongings and cash Rs 650. On 28th March, 1976 the victim identified Vijal Kumar and Deepak two accused and they were arrested by Railway Police, Delhi Main in case FIR No. 120 dated 28th March, 1976, under section 328/379/411/401 IPC. As a result of the interrogation of the two arrested accused, three more members of this gang named Prem Singh, Madan Lal and Babu Lal were also

arrested. 'Dhatura' and other items of suspected stolen property like shawl, watches, saris and clothes etc. were recovered by the Police at the instance of the arrested accused. The case is still under investigation of the Police.

**Production of Hostalen**

\*762. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) which are the firms manufacturing Hostalen, high density polyethylene, in the country;

(b) their total production during the last three years, company-wise; and

(c) the price fixed for the same per tonne and the procedure adopted for its distribution?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) M/s. polyolefins Industries Ltd., are the sole manufacturers of High density polyethylene. Their brand name is Hostalen.

(b) The production figures during the last three years are as follows:—

(figures in tonnes)

1973	.	.	.	.	23,000
1974	.	.	.	.	24,650
1975	.	.	.	.	23,000

(c) The present price per tonne of high density polyethylene is Rs. 11 498 (including excise), and the distribution is done by M/s. Hoechst Dyes and Chemicals sole distributors for M/s. Polyolefins Industries Ltd. There is no price or distribution control on this item.

**Oil Exploration in Coastal Belt of Kerala**

\*763. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geophysical studies in the coastal belt of Kerala had