

West Bengal Government request for take-over of Martin Burn Railways in Howrah

*350. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from West Bengal Government to take over Martin Burn Railways in Howrah; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b). Such requests were received in the past but were not accepted as operation of these dilapidated Light Railways was highly unremunerative. However after discussion with the Government of West Bengal it has been decided to construct Broad Gauge lines in that area rather than to take over the Martin Burn Railways.

बीजल रेल इंजनों का निर्माण बन्द किया जाना

*351. श्री झोकार साल बेरवा : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार ने बीजल रेल इंजन बनाना बन्द कर दिया है, और

(ख) यदि हा, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

रेल मंत्रालय से उप-मंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरैशी) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Committee for Distribution of Furnace Oil to Industry

*352. SHRI D. D. DESAI:

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA:

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

(a) whether Government have framed any criteria for allocation of furnace oil to the industry;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether any Committee has been formed for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the composition and main functions of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): (a) and (b). For the present a uniform 10 per cent efficiency cut is being made in furnace oil supplies to all categories of consumers against their assessed demands or actual 1973 offtakes as the case may be.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Secretary and Director General, Technical Development, is the Chairman of the Committee which has in addition representatives from the Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Steel & Mines, Central Water & Power Commission and a representative from this Ministry Industrial Adviser, DGID is the Member-Secretary. The Committee will recommend *inter-alia* measures for reducing the consumption of furnace oil in the country as quickly as may be practicable without at the same time inhibiting industrial production and other economic activities; lay down priorities for the allocation of furnace oil to the different categories of consumers; scrutinise all new requests from industrial units based on furnace oil; watch the progress of availability and supply of coal to industries which on technological considerations can switch over to coal in place of FO; and monitor the progress made in the direction of economy in the use of furnace oil and fuel efficiency

Decision to Work-to-Rule by All India Railway Employees' Confederation

*353. SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the decision of the All India Railway Employees' Confederation which met in Madras from 15th February to 17th February, 1974 to resort to work-to-rule with effect from 15th April and to