

(b) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Additional quantities of furnace oil offered by Kuwait National Petroleum Corporation, London have been accepted. However these cover only a part of the deficit in Furnace Oil availability against demand during 1974. In view of steeply increased oil prices, efforts are being made to curb the consumption of furnace oil to the extent feasible by improving efficiency of utilisation, supplying substitute fuels, particularly coal which is indigenously available etc

Medium and major schemes for irrigation during last three years

***445. SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK:** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of medium and major schemes for irrigation drawn and completed during the last three years; and

(b) the nature of programme being drawn for the purpose during the Fifth Five Year Plan and to what extent it is going to meet the requirements of the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) In the last three years, proposals for 46 new major and 192 new medium irrigation projects were sent by the State Governments. In these three years, the Planning Commission approved of the implementation of 15 major and 39 medium projects as new schemes of the Fourth Plan. 3 major and 70 medium schemes have also been approved for implementation as new schemes of the Fifth Plan. 4 major and 45 medium irrigation projects, on which work had been continuing from earlier plans, were completed in the last three years.

(b) The draft Fifth Plan envisages an outlay of Rs. 2401 crores on major and medium projects. Most of the continuing major projects and all the continuing medium projects and proposed to be completed. In addition, work is proposed to be started on a number of new schemes and irrigation potential of 6.2 million hac, is proposed to be added. This programme is about double of what would be achieved in the Fourth Plan, and is considered adequate in the context of overall resource availability.

Policy for Transfer of Employees viz. Husband and Wife

***451. SHRI PANNA LAL B/RUPAL:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the policy laid down for the transfer of employees viz. Husband and Wife in case one is working under the Railways while the other is working in the service of a State Government; and

(b) whether any instructions have been issued to keep such of the employees (viz. Husband and Wife) at one and the same Station?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b). The policy is to consider sympathetically requests for transfer to the place where the spouse is working, though actual transfers depend on administrative convenience. Instructions to this effect already exist.

Effect felt by coal mines due to inadequate wagon acquisition programme

***452. SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Board's decision not to step up wagon acquisition programme would affect the production of Coal Mines; and