

The implementation of the 10-hour duty schedule in case of loco running staff has already started from 1st December, 1973. As the full implementation of 10-hour duty schedule requires the extensive additional facilities by way of running rooms, crew vans, loop lines, staff quarters and recruitment and training of about 20,000 locomen, the scheme can be introduced only in a phased manner.

**Oil supplies from Oman to India**

\*461. **SHRI P. A. SAMINATHAN;**  
**SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN.**

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

(a) whether Oman has decided to help India for the first time in the oil crisis;

(b) if so, whether the Minister of Development of Oman recently visited India; and

(c) to what extent Oman has agreed to supply oil to India during the year 1974?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): (a) to (c). In the context of recent changes in the world crude oil supply position, the possibilities of setting up joint ventures with some of the Gulf countries are being explored. The matter was discussed recently with the Minister of Development of Oman during his visit to India. The proposals are in a very preliminary stage and it is too early to give any details.

**Death of a girl due to fall of burning coal ash at Rajghat Power House**

\*462. **SHRI RAM PRAKASH;**  
**SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA:**

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a minor girl was killed by the fall of burning coal ash at Rajghat Power House, Delhi on the 23rd February, 1974;

(b) whether any inquiry has been instituted into the mishap; and

(c) if so, the findings of the inquiry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c). There was no accident in the precincts of the Rajghat Power House on 23rd February involving any loss of life. However, on 24th February 1974, a minor girl died due to the collapse of loose cinder, when she along with some others, was rummaging for coal bits in old mounds of dumped ash. Ash from the Rajghat Power House used to be dumped for a number of years in nearby areas where recently a Jhuggi colony has come up. A departmental enquiry has been held by the Delhi Municipal Corporation. It has brought out that this was a case of an accident.

**Probe into expenditure incurred on Nagarjunasagar project**

\*463. **SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to institute a high level probe into huge expenditure incurred on the Nagarjunasagar project; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The Government of Andhra Pradesh have reported that there is no proposal to institute any such high level probe on the Nagarjunasagar project. They have further reported that a Commission of Enquiry has been appointed by them to inquire into and report on matters relating to the contract for work on Perubhotlapalem deep cut of Nagarjunasagar right bank canal, with the following terms of inquiry:—

(a) All the circumstances connected with the leading to the contract

relating to the work known as Perubhotlapalem deep cut of the Nagarjunasagar right canal with M/s Supreme Construction Company, Hyderabad, in January, 1972;

- (b) whether the above transaction was justified;
- (c) whether there was any impropriety or irregularity in the above transaction and, if so, the authority, person or persons responsible therefor;
- (d) the measures to be taken to avoid similar irregularities, if any, in future contracts; and
- (e) Any other matter having relevance to the above. The inquiry by the Commission is in progress.

#### Consumer Co-operative Societies and Fair Price Shops

\*464. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the total number of consumer co-operative societies in the Railway department;
- (b) the number of fair price shops for Railway employees;
- (c) the broad features regarding their annual sales; and
- (d) whether Government have felt the necessity of opening more fair price shops and if so, how many have been opened?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) to (c). There are 432 Consumer Co-operative Societies in the Railways. These societies run 362 Fair Price Shops for the Railway employees. In addition Railway employees can avail of the facilities of Fair Price Shops run by the State Authorised Dealers. The amount of sales both in respect of Co-operative So-

cieties and the Fair Price Shops run by them was of the order of Rs. 10.54 crores for the co-operative year ending June 30, 1973.

(d) Yes Sir, 22 more Fair Price Shops have been opened after April, 1973.

#### Seminar on Role of Conductor in Power Distribution organised by the cable and Conductor Manufacturers' Association at New Delhi

4520. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a seminar on 'Role of Conductor in Power Distribution organised by Cable and Conductor Manufacturer Association and National Alliance of Young Entrepreneur, was held in New Delhi in August, 1973;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made by the seminar; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The major recommendations of the seminar are as under—

- (1) A detailed study be undertaken to assess the annual requirements of aluminium to enable the conductor manufacturers to plan their production programme
- (2) Steps be taken to raise the production of aluminium and ensure uninterrupted supply of E.C. grade aluminium
- (3) The present system of placing of orders, inspection and method of payments by the State Electricity Boards be reviewed and improved.