

ment has been drawn to the demand made by the Assam Chief Minister to take over the responsibility of flood control in Assam by taking over the Brahmaputra Flood Control Commission ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) and (b). The Chief Minister of Assam has written to the Prime Minister stating that the task of controlling the Brahmaputra and its tributaries is beyond the resources of the State Government and that the responsibility should be taken over by the Central Government and has suggested that this matter could be discussed.

This matter is yet to be discussed.

Proposals to Halt Deluxe and Western Express Trains at Sawai Madhopur

*340. RAJMATA GAYATRI DEVI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have accepted the proposal to halt the Deluxe and Western Express Trains at Sawai Madhopur Junction ; and

(b) if so, from which date the proposal would be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b). The stoppage of 25-Dn/26-Up Airconditioned/Paschim Express at Sawai Madhopur station has been provided with effect from 1-4-1971.

Issue of Licences to Voltas for Manufacture of Additional Machinery

*342. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Voltas has been licensed for the manufacture of additional machinery of nearly a crore of rupees per year ; and

(b) if so, whether this was scrutinised before hand by the Monopolies Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. M/s. Voltas were granted an industrial licence in August, 1969 for the manufacture of 12 numbers a year of Rotary-cum-Down Hole Blast Hole Drills valued at Rs. 1.08 crores. The question of scrutiny by the Monopolies Commission did not arise as the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act had not come into operation then.

Coaches of Calcutta-Bound Coalfield Express Gutted at Dhanbad Station

*343. SHRI KRISHNA HALDER :
SHRI SAMAR GUHA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 3 coaches of Calcutta-bound Coalfield Express were gutted at Dhanbad Station on the 11th May, 1971 ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ;

(c) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the increasing number of accidents to Railway trains such as short circuit etc. ; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to avert such incidents ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) On 11-5-1971 when the rake of Coalfield Express consisting of 14 coaches was standing berthed in a siding at Dhanbad Station, the dining car and the adjacent third class chair car of the rake caught fire at about 04.15 hours.

(b) An inquiry was held but due to the dining car from where the fire originated having been destroyed by fire, no definite cause could be established.

(c) No, Sir. The facts are otherwise and the incidence of fires in trains has come down significantly. During the year 1970-71 i.e. April, 1970 to March, 1971, there were only 12 cases of fires in trains against 47 cases during the previous year i.e. 1969-70.

(d) (i) As a result of detailed studies conducted by the Research Designs and Standards Organisation, comprehensive modifications were carried out in the

electrical train lighting system of coaches.

- (ii) All coaches particularly wooden bodied coaches are being tested for leaks.
- (iii) Insulating sleeves are being provided on leads of fans and junction boxes.
- (iv) Branch wiring of coaches is being thoroughly checked during periodical over-haul.

Bottling Plants for Gold Spot and Coca-Cola

*344. SHRI S. P. VERMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bottling plants bottling Gold Spot in the country in the year 1965 and 1970 and their locations ; and

(b) the number of bottling plants bottling Coca-Cola in the country in the year 1970 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) : (a) Twenty eight bottling plants were bottling 'Gold Spot' in the country in the year 1970 as against fifteen such plants in the year 1965. A list showing the location of 'Gold Spot' bottling plants is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-344/71.]

(b) Twenty-one bottling plants were bottling 'Coca-Cola' in the year 1970.

Closure of Small Scale Industries due to shortage of Coal and Steel

*346. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA :
SHRI NATHU RAM
AHIRWAR :
SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of small industrial units in the country are faced with the consequence of closure due to the acute shortage of coal and steel ; and

(b) if so, the total need of these units and the steps taken by Government to meet them ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shortage of Power in Delhi due to fall of Water Level in Sutlej

*347. SHRI N. S. BISHT :
SHRI K. M. MADHUKAR :

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

(a) whether he has stated that Delhi is likely to face an acute shortage of power in case the water level in the Sutlej river does not rise ; and

(b) if so, the measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government to maintain adequate supply of power to Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) and (b). In the statement laid on the Table of the House on the 25th May, 1971, I had pointed out that if the inflows into Bhakra did not improve, there would be reduction in generation of about 2 million units per day at Bhakra and as a consequence all the States receiving power from the Bhakra Project would have to cut down their power consumption. This would affect Delhi as well. Accordingly, Government had prepared a scheme for load shedding in Delhi area which was being kept ready for implementation, in case the power supply position at Bhakra aggravates. (However, the position has since improved considerably). The measures included load shedding of about 30 to 50 MW in Delhi by—

(i) Shifting of shop hours.

(ii) banning the use of decorative lights and illumination of fountains.

(iii) regulating cinema shows.

(iv) staggering of industrial loads.

(v) phased load shedding of feeders in different areas of different hours of the day.

Apart from improvement in power generation at Bhakra, commissioning of the 55 MW generating unit at I.P. Station, Delhi in a few weeks' time, commissioning of Badarpur Thermal Power Station next year and inter-connections with neighbour-