

की जांच कर लिए जाने के बाद जबलपुर—गोंदिया खंड के बदलाव के सम्बन्ध में निर्णय लिया जायेगा ।

(ग) इस समय गोंदिया—चन्द्रपुर छोटी लाइन खण्ड को बड़ी लाइन में बदलने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

Plan to set up a Petro-Chemical Complex on the basis of Mathura Refinery

*436. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a plan to set up a Petro-chemical complex on the basis of the Mathura Oil Refinery; if so, when will it be finalised;

(b) how many such complexes are running in the country at present, what is the extent of shortage of products being produced by them and how are they being met; and

(c) whether Government propose to locate the new complex in the nearby areas of Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) There is no plan for the present to set up a Petrochemical Complex on the basis of Naphtha to be available from Mathura Refinery.

(b) At present the following major Petrochemical projects are in operation in the country:—

- (i) Aromatics Project of IPCL at Baroda.
- (ii) NOCIL's Naphtha Cracker at Bombay.
- (iii) Union Carbide's Naphtha Cracker at Bombay.
- (iv) PRC's Kureha Cracker at Tirunelveli.

In addition, two major petrochemical projects—IPCL's Naphtha Cracker and its downstream units at Baroda and BRPL's Petrochemical Complex at Bongaigaon, both in Public Sector—are under implementation.

The demand for various petrochemical items suffered a set back due to price hike of these products following the oil crises. Demand for these items is however, now gradually picking up. Pending the commissioning of the Petrochemical units under construction particularly IPCL's Naphtha Cracker and its downstream units, the temporary shortages which are marginal and vary from time to time are being met through imports.

(c) No, Sir.

Introduction of Rayalaseema Express from Tirupathi to Hyderabad

*437. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with the Government to introduce Rayalaseema Express on the broad gauge from Tirupathi to Hyderabad; and

(b) if so, when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is still under consideration.

Oil exploration of On-shore areas by Foreign countries

*438. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allocated certain on-shore areas for oil exploration to some foreign countries during last six months; and