

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, April 22, 1975/Vaisakha 2,
1897 (Saha)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair.]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

**Trains cancelled due to shortage of
Power in Sealdah Division during the
last six months.**

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*732. SHRI TUNA ORAON :
SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SAR-
KAR :

Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be
pleased to state:

(a) the number and particulars of
trains cancelled in Sealdah Division due
to shortage of power during the last six
months; and

(b) the action taken for smooth run-
ning of trains in this Division?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MOHD SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No
trains were cancelled in Sealdah Divi-
sion during last six months due to restric-
tion on electricity consumption. How-
ever 305 trains were cancelled due to
load shedding and power failures etc.

(b) To ensure continuous and secure
power supply for electric traction loads
on a long-term basis, the Ministry of
Railways have decided, in consultation
with the Planning Commission, to set up
Railways' own power stations which will
run inter-connected with the State Grids.
One of the power stations is proposed
to be set up in West Bengal, which when
completed, will help in smooth running
of trains on the electrified sections.

SHRI MUHAMMED KHUDA
BUKHSB: Will the hon. Minister tell
us when the power stations are propos-
ed to be set up?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI:
The matter is under examination by the
Planning Commission.

Projects of Oil Exploration in West Bengal

*733. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will
the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) details about the projects of oil
exploration under operation in West Ben-
gal; and

(b) the progress so far made there-
about?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM
AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. D.
MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) Seismic sur-
veys have been conducted by the ONGC
in districts of West Dinajpur, Maldah,
Burdwan, Nadiah, Howrah, 24-Parganas,
Midnapur and Bankura of West Bengal.
Exploratory work done so far, including
drilling of a number of exploratory wells,
in West Bengal has not led to the dis-
covery of deposits of oil/gas of com-
mercial significance. On the basis of
further work done, ONGC has released
for drilling three more locations, one at
Bakultala and two at Galsi. Drilling at
Bakultala structure is expected to be
commenced during this year.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: May I know
(a) whether the seismic survey in the
Bakultala area of 24 Parganas has reveal-
ed a similar reflection as in Gujarat,
which shows that there is a possibility of
a similar structure of oil in the Bakul-
tala area and if so, what are the results
of that survey; (b) whether drilling works
were started in Jaguli-Haringhata, Bera-
champa, Guskara, Bat-Krishnapur and
Galsi areas but they have been aban-
doned; and (c) whether the reason for
abandoning the drilling in these areas
and in Bodra was that proper drilling and
rigging instruments were not available?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Sir, many
questions have been put. If he puts them
one by one, I can answer them. The
nature of seismic reflections in the
Bakultala area have encouraged us to
pinpoint areas where we are going to
start drilling by the end of this year.