

**Rajdhani Type Express Train between
Madras and New Delhi**

2170. SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: Will THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce Rajdhani type Express train between Madras and New Delhi;

(b) if so, the action taken to earmark sufficient funds for this new train involving strengthening of tracks, etc .

(c) whether there is any proposal to make engineering/administrative survey in this regard; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Reopening of Punalur Paper Mills in
Kerala**

2171. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punalur Paper Mills in Kerala has been lying closed for the last four years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government to reopen the Mill;

(c) whether there is any proposal to take over the Mill by the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Low level of production, huge accumulated losses, lack of proper management etc., are some of the main reasons responsible for the closure of the mill. It has been reported that a rehabilitation package offered by the financial institutions in 1981 could not be implemented due to the inability of the management of the company to fulfil its obligations under the package.

(c) and (d). At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for taking over the Punalur Paper Mills by Hindustan Paper Corporation.

**Khaskuthi Open Cast Project of Eastern
Coalfields Limited**

2172. SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eastern Coalfields Limited has recently commissioned the Khushuthi Open Cast Project at Bhanora;

(b) if so, the date of its commissioning;

(c) the details of feasibility report, present status report and cost benefit ratio; and

(d) whether this project has complied with all statutory requirements?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Khaskuthi Opencast Project in Bhanora Mine of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. was commissioned in July, 1989. The project involving a capital outlay of Rs. 19.50 lakhs (excluding cost of plant pool equipment) is expected to produce 20,000

tonnes of coal in 1989-90 and 75,000 tonnes in 1990-91. On the basis of the present cost of production and sale value, it has been estimated that there would be a profit of Rs. 258.36 per tonne of coal raised. Notice in regard to the opening of the mine as per statutory requirement has been given to the Director General of Mines Safety by the coal company.

Dining/Pantry Cars on through Trains

2173. SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: Will THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to attach a dining car or a pantry car all through trains on the Northern Railway; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Pantry cars are provided when catering through static catering units en-route is either not feasible or inadequate, subject to availability of pantry cars as well as room on trains.

Exploration of Bombay Offshore Blocks

2174. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had constituted a Committee of experts to look into the capabilities and work programmes of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and the Oil India Ltd.;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details of the recommenda-

tions made by the committee and action taken thereon;

(d) whether the Committee has proposed for exploration of certain blocks in Bombay offshore by International oil giants; and

(e) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, constituted a committee comprising Shri Lovraj Kumar and Shri C.R. Jagannathan to look into the capabilities and work programmes of the ONGC and the OIL during the 8th plan period and make recommendations on the areas/blocks that may be offered to international oil companies during the Fourth Round, and on other related issues. The Committee has since submitted its report to the Government.

(c) to (e). The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

Oil find in Krishna-Godavari Basin

2175. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether more oil has been found in Krishna-Godavari basin in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the estimated quantum of oil and natural gas yield; and

(c) the total quantity of oil and natural gas that would be made available to the State of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). ONGC had