

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) and (b). Geological and geophysical surveying, drilling, re-interpreting the geology and conducting further surveys with more refinements are all continuous processes and no time limit can, therefore, be assigned for their completion nor can an estimate of total expenditure be given. According to prognostic assessment made by the Indo-Soviet team last year, the geological reserves of the country may be around 6,000 million tonnes of oil. As a result of exploration operations conducted so far, about 1600 million tonne of geological reserves have been located of which about 350 tonnes fall in the category or recoverable reserves. Out of this, about 80 million tonnes have been produced leaving a balance of about 270 million tonnes as recoverable as on 1-1-1976.

(c) Equipment and personnel from a number of countries have been utilised for oil exploration in the country. These include Canada, USA, USSR, Romania, Italy, Hungary, France, U.K. etc.

Deputationists to other Ministries enjoying facilities of Passes

4821. **SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway employees on deputation to other Ministries for more than three years on transfer are entitled to enjoy the same facilities such as complimentary passes as available to other Railway employees; and

(b) if so, the period upto which the facilities are provided?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). The Railway employees during the period of deputation to non-Railway Department are granted Privilege Passes/PTOs on the same scale as admissible to serving Railway employees for the tenure of the post to which they are deputed. Where the deputation of the railway servant is extended beyond the normal period of tenure, such railway servant will be allowed passes as applicable to him on post retirement scale. Where one does not qualify for any pass with reference to his service under the post retirement scale, he is allowed, as a special case, during the rest of the period of deputation, at the lowest scale applicable to his class on retirement.

1928 L.S.—4

Demands of Railway Employees at the time of Strike in 1974

4822. **SHRI VIJAYKUMAR PATIL:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what were the demands made by Shri George Fernandes on behalf of the Railway employees at the time of the strike in 1974; and

(b) which of them have been accepted and which have been rejected by the Government after March, 1977?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):

(a) Shri George Fernandes, as the convener of the National Co-ordination Committee for Railwaymen's Struggle, forwarded to the then Minister for Railways in March, 1974 a copy of the Resolution adopted at the National Convention of Railwaymen on 27-2-74 contained the following demands:—

(a). All Railwaymen be treated as industrial workers with full trade union rights including the right to negotiate.

(b). The working hours of Railwaymen shall not exceed eight hours per day.

(c). There shall be job evaluation of all railwaymen through a scientific system to be followed by their reclassification—regradation with the need-based minimum wage as the wage for the lowest-paid worker.

2. Pending the completion of job evaluation and reclassification, immediate parity in wages with those of workers in the Central Undertakings, viz. HMT, BHEL, HSL, NAL, etc.

3. Bonus at the rate of one month's wages for the year 1971-72 and 1972-73.

4. Decasualisation of all casual railwaymen and their confirmation in service with all benefits given to them with retrospective effect.

5. Adequate and subsidised foodgrains and other essential commodities through departmentally-run shops.

6. All victimisation cases should be withdrawn.

(b) During the negotiations prior to May 1974 strike a common ground on the following points was being evolved though no formal agreement was concluded—

1. Mentation of Miabhoj's Award in 100.

(ii) Cadre review and upgradation of Class III and Class IV Staff.

(iii) Job Evaluation within the framework of the Pay Commission's recommendations.

(iv) Appointment of a Committee to go into anomalies arising as a result of Pay Commission's recommendations.

(v) Certain policies with regard to employment of casual labour.

(vi) Opening of fair-price shops in railway colonies housing more than 300 families.

After the May 1974 Strike there was no progress on the remaining demands.

Rail Connection for Panna

4823. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Panna, the capital of erstwhile princely State, is not connected by any railway line; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE) :

(a) Yes.

(b) A survey was carried out for construction of a railway line from Salia to Panna in 1927-28 but construction was not taken up as the project was not found to be viable.

कुकिंग गैस की कमी

4824. श्री मन्त्री र.स बागड़ी : क्या पेट्रोलियम तथा रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दिल्ली में कुकिंग गैस की भारी कमी है और सरकार ने नए गैस कनेक्शन देने पर रोक लगा दी है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस कमी के क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) गैस कम्पनियों के पास 31 मार्च, 1977 तक कुकिंग गैस कनेक्शन की सप्लाई के लिए कितने व्यक्तियों के नाम दर्ज थे ; और

(घ) यह कमी दूर करने के लिए सरकार ने क्या कार्रवाई की है ?

पेट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री (श्री हेमवती नन्धन बहुगुणा) : (क) और (ख) तरल पेट्रोलियम गैस (खाना पकाने की गैस) की दिल्ली और कुल मिलाकर सारे देश की मांग उक्त उत्पाद की उपलब्धता से कहीं बहुत अधिक है। तथापि वर्तमान एल पी जी के उपभोक्ताओं की मांग की अस्थायी कमी की अल्प अवधि को छोड़कर आमतौर से पूर्ण की जाती रही है। क्योंकि कोयाली (गुजरात) शोधनशाला की एल पी जी की कुल उत्पादन, जो दिल्ली की सप्लाई का स्रोत है, पूर्ण रूप से वचन बद्ध है। इसलिए तेल कम्पनियों ने नए गैस कनेक्शन देने पर रोक लगा दी है।

(ग) 31 मार्च, 1977 को यथा स्थिति के अनुसार दिल्ली में विभिन्न तेल कम्पनियों के पास नए गैस कनेक्शन प्रदान करने हेतु पंजीकृत व्यक्तियों की संख्या लगभग 1.07 लाख है।

(घ) उक्त उत्पाद की उपलब्धता में अगले 2 से 3 वर्षों में सुधार होने की आशा है।

Stoning of Madras bound Pandyan Express

4825. SHRI R. N. SWAMINATHAN: DR. HENRY AUSTIN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madras bound Pandyan Express from Madurai was stoned and damaged at suburban St. Thomas Mount station on 30th June, 1977;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;