

action. Show Cause Notice has already been issued by the Collector of Central Excise, Bangalore while the matter is under the consideration of Collector of Central Excise, Calcutta.

Searches were also conducted in this group of cases in November, 1976 by the Income Tax authorities as well. Further inquiries are in progress.

#### Grades of R.P.F. Inspectors

3835. SHRI AHSAN JAFRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the grades of R.P.F. Inspectors has been reduced from three grades in total to two grades only i.e., 1st Grade and 2nd Grade;

(b) if so, whether the proportion of the above three grades have been decided, so far; and

(c) if not, what is the attitude of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes.

(b) Prior to amalgamation of grades, the proportion in three grades of R.P.F. Inspectors was as follows:

Grade I	....	5 per cent.
Grade II	....	15 per cent.
Grade III	....	80 per cent.

Since the introduction of two grades, the proportion has not yet been decided.

(c) The question of the proportion of the grades is under consideration.

#### Shantilal Shah High Power Committee

3836. SHRI AHSAN JAFRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the recommendations of Shantilal Shah Higher Power Committee regarding housing facility,

welfare of railway employees and other amenities to be given to railway employees including R.P.F.;

(b) what action has been taken by the Government in that direction, so far; and

(c) if no action has been taken whether Government propose to implement the recommendations of S. S. High Power Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Shantilal H. Shah High Powered Committee was appointed to go into all aspects of the policing on the Railways, including the working of the Railway Protection Force. Other railway employees were not covered by the Committee. A statement of recommendations pertaining to housing, welfare and amenities in respect of R.P.F. is attached.

(b) All these recommendations had been considered by the Ministry of Railways and accepted for implementation except serial number 4 and 6 of the statement attached. Instructions for the implementation of these recommendations had also been issued to the Railways.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Statement

##### *Housing, Welfare and Amenities*

(1) An area should be set apart at the Headquarters of each Division for the construction of a regular "Reserve Lines" for the Railway Protection Force. These Lines should have their own parade and playgrounds and such ancillary buildings as may be required. (Recommendation No. 169)

(2) The Chief Security Officer should have a reserve line for his reserve at the Headquarters of each Zonal Railway (Recommendation No. 170).

(3) Where members of the Force are small in number, only married accommodation should be provided, but in a separate block. (Recommendation No. 171).

(4) A separate fund should be earmarked for the construction of buildings for the Railways Protection Force, wherever needed. (Recommendation No. 172)

(5) The Railway should draw up a separate buildings programme for their Railway Protection Force on an phased basis. (Recommendation No. 173)

(6) Residential accommodation for officers and men upto the rank of Inspectors should be provided free of cost. (Recommendation No. 174).

(7) There should be provision for a reading and recreation room separately at all Divisional and Zonal Headquarters of the Railways (Recommendation No 175).

(8) Provision should also be made for the supply of sports gear and for this purpose a separate annual allotment should be placed at the disposal of the Chief Security Officer for distribution among his Assistant Security Officers/Security Officers (Recommendation No. 176).

(9) Welfare Centres for the Railway Protection Force on the lines of the one at Kharagpur should be established at selected places where there are large concentration of officers and men of the Railway Protection Force (Recommendation No. 177).

#### **Agreement between USSE and India on Production of Oil & Gas in India**

3837. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a protocol on further co-operation between the USSR and India in the field of prospecting and production of oil and gas in the on-

shore fields of the ONGC was signed on December, 1977;

(b) if so, the main features of the agreement;

(c) whether the Soviet Union has also offered to render technical assistance in preparing perspective programme for introduction of artificial lift means at the on-shore oil fields under-development of the ONGC; and

(d) if so, the details of the same?

#### **THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA):**

(a) Pursuant to the Joint Discussions held between the Soviet delegation and the Oil & Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) in December, 1977, a protocol was signed on 26th December, 1977 on the progress and development of Soviet-Indian Cooperation in the field of Petroleum Industry in the public sector in India.

(b) The protocol envisages further cooperation in the following matters:

(i) Geological survey and perspective plans for oil and gas;

(ii) development of oil fields and optimisation of production of oil from wells by equipping them with sucker rod pumps, introducing artificial lift means etc.;

(iii) setting up of Research Institutes for techniques and technology of drilling and development of oil fields and gas formations;

(iv) geophysical logging equipment/operations;

(v) deputation of specialists; and

(vi) matters relating to delivery of equipment and materials, etc.

(c) and (d). To ensure optimum production from the wells and to increase the scope of production of oil at the oil fields under development, the Soviet side had offered to render technical assistance to ONGC in the