

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation has signed an agreement to import crude oil from Iran; and

(b) if so what quantity of the oil to be imported will be carried by Indian Shipping?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) (b). No Sir. The Government have, however, entered into an agreement with Total International Ltd., for the supply of 9 million tonnes of crude oil from Iran for Haldia Refinery during a period of 6 to 10 years.

As Haldia Refinery is expected to be commissioned only by about the middle of 1973, transportation arrangements for the import of crude oil for it have not yet been finalised. However, the Shipping Corporation is purchasing four 87,000 tonnes tankers which are expected to be utilised for transporting crude oil to Haldia when these tankers are in operation.

Appointment of Director (Marketing) in F.C.I.

1160. SHRI PANNA LAL BARUPAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2887 on the 14th April, 1972 regarding recommendations of Ramakrishnayya Committee on re-organisation of Fertilizer Corporation of India and state:

(a) whether the Committee had recommended a separate Director for Marketing; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) and (b). A post of Director (Marketing) has been created as per the recommendations of the Study Team of which Shri Ramakrishnayya was the Convenor.

Conference of State Irrigation and Power Ministers at Srinagar

1161. SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to implement the decisions taken at the last Conference of State Irrigation and Power Ministers held at Srinagar;

(b) whether the Committees constituted at the Conference has since made any recommendations; and

(c) if so, the outlines thereof

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL): (a) A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-3747 1723*].

(b). The recommendations of the Committee constituted at the Conference are awaited.

(c) Does not arise.

Conversion of Railway Gauge in Andhra Pradesh

1162. SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have submitted any proposals for the conversion of Metre gauge lines into Broad gauge;

(b) if so, the gist thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) to (c). The proposals for gauge conversion of lines as suggested by the Andhra Pradesh Government in the recent past, and the position thereof are as under: