

Railway authorities and drawn their attention of suppressing cases of corruption against senior officers of the Eastern Railways;

(c) if so, the gist thereof and action taken in the matter; and

(d) what financial and other assistance will be given to the bereaved family of the Railway employee?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) As per reports which appeared in some News Papers published on 25-11-73 from New Delhi, Shri S. P. Verma, formerly a Sanitary Inspector of the Eastern Railway had attempted to immolate himself near Parliament House on the evening of the 24th November, 1973. Subsequently, it had been reported in the News Papers on 27-11-73 that Shri Verma had died on 26-11-73 of the injuries caused by the burns. At the time of the incident Shri Verma was not a Railway employee as he stood removed from Railway Service with effect from 27th February, 1968.

(b) Shri Verma had met various Railway Ministers from time to time and also certain officers of the Ministry of Railways in connection with the allegations of corruption levelled by him against some officials of the Eastern Railway.

(c) The gist of the complaint of corruption made by Shri Verma is that:—

(i) Two caste Hindus were appointed as Safaiwalas in the Kanchrapara Workshop of the Eastern Railway;

(ii) these two person were not doing any conservancy work as it was, in the words of Shri S. P. Verma, "against their racial profession";

(iii) they were irregularly paid a 'Sewer allowance' of Rs. 3/- per month to which they were not entitled;

(iv) AWO/Kanchrapara had appointed 11 Casual labourers (Sanitary

Cleaners) in the month of June, 1964 out of which six were underaged; and

(v) he was removed from service because he brought to light certain cases of corruption;

Allegations (i) to (iv) above had been investigated in detail but they remained unsubstantiated. The results of the investigations were also referred to the Central Vigilance Commission who advised that the allegations did not call for any action from vigilance angle. However, during the course of investigations certain irregularities on the part of some staff came to notice for which they were taken up suitably.

As regards allegation (v), Shri Verma's removal from service was on the charge of leaving his headquarters without permission and absenting himself from duty without authority. The penalty had been imposed after following the procedure laid down in this regard. His appeal against the order of removal from service was duly considered but rejected by the General Manager, Eastern Railway. His case was also examined in the Ministry of Railways at the highest level and it was felt that there was no ground to interfere in the orders passed for his removal from service.

(d) Since his removal from service on 27th February, 1968 he ceased to be a railway employee, as such no financial assistance to the family is normally payable.

#### Running of a taxi on cooking gas

5182. SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM :  
SHRI AMARSINH CHAUDHARI :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the reported running of taxi on cooking gas by two engineers and a taxi driver;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and the reaction of Government thereto ;

(c) whether Government will encourage this system in view of the shortage and high price of petroleum and their by-products ; and

(d) if so, the broad outlines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The use of cooking gas for automotive purposes is however irregular. The Government is processing the issue of an order restricting the use of Liquefied Petroleum Gas for purposes other than domestic fuel.

**Meetings between employees of the Recognised Employees Federation and Railway Board at Delhi**

5183. SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM : SHRI AMARSINH CHAUDHARI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any meeting was held between the two recognised Employees Federations and the Railway Administration/Board at Delhi in the month of November, 1973 on the issues of employees demands, grievances and problems ;

(b) if so, the decision taken thereat ; and

(c) when and how the same will be implemented ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The minutes of the meeting are being finalised in consultation with the representatives of the Federations and steps will be taken to implement the decisions taken therein as soon as possible.

**Irrigation Projects in Gujarat**

5184. SHRI VEKARIA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposal for any new irrigation project has been sent by the Gujarat Government ; and

(b) if so, the main feature thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) and (b). The main feature of 20 new irrigation projects received from the Government of Gujarat are indicated below :—

S. No.	Name of project (District)	Estimated cost (Rs. lakhs)	Benefits (Lakh hectares)
1.	Karjan (Broach)	166.84	0.385
2.	Sipu (Banaskantha)	932.64	0.19
3.	Rami (Baroda)	38.35	0.0013
4.	Sukhbhadar (Bhavnagar)	151.16	0.0035
5.	Rajwal Irrigation Scheme	190.88	0.0033
6.	Amipur Irrigation Scheme	211.66	0.068
7.	Narnav Stage II (Sabarkanta)	90.35	0.0034
8.	Kalindri (Junagarh)	46.31	0.0016
9.	Dhatarwadi (Amreli)	108.22	0.0025
10.	Nara (Kutch)	77.97	0.0011
11.	Machhan Nalla (Panchmahal)	89.03	0.0034
12.	Reval (Junagad)	207.78	0.05
13.	Machhundri (Junagad)	173.09	0.04
14.	Wankleshwar Bhey (Panchmahal)	34.94	0.0017
15.	Pigut (Broach)	65.86	0.0013
16.	Godheted (Kutch)	34.13	0.006
17.	Shetrunji Spillway Gates (Bhavnagar)	32.68	0.34 (Total)
18.	Kaswati (Kutch)	53.65	0.006
19.	Ambajal (Junagad)	65.95	0.0011
20.	Baldeva (Broach)	53.52	0.0015