WRITTEN ANSWERS TO **QUESTIONS**

Production of Low-Viscosity Furnace Oil by IOC for Power Generating Plants

*124. SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation has again started processing low-viscosity furnace oil for the use of electric power generating plants in the Eastern region;

(b) the total requirement of lowviscosity furnace Oil for the purpose of electricity generation in the country and the total production of this item in Indian refineries including those of Indian Oil Corporation; and

(c) whether the decision to revert to the production of low-viscosity furnace Oil was taken as a result of the request from the Ministry of Irrigation and Power?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH); (a) Barauni Refinery has recenty switched over to the production of low-viscosity Furnace Oil to meet the requirements of power stations in the Eastern Region.

(b) Estimated requirement of furnace oil for power generation in Thermal Power station for the year 1974-75 is estimated at 435,000 tonnes. Except for the power stations in the Eastern Region all others are at present using heavy viscosity furnace The total estimated production oil of low-viscosity FO (upto 600 Secs.) for 1974-75 is likely to be 180,000 tonnes.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Agreement with M/s. A. H. Wheeler & Co. for Book Stalks

*125. SHRI LALJI BHAI:

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently the Railways entered into an agreement with Mis. A. H. Wheeler & Co. for book stalls operation which will come into in 1976 and whether their previous agreement will expire only December, 1975;

agreement (b) whether the new rules and contravenes the extant practices;

(c) whether in the past any agreement was entered into by Railways with any other firms so much in advance of expiry of the existing ome; and

(d) if not, the reasons for showing special favour to this firm?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). The renewal of bookstall contracts is normally taken up for consideration during the pendency of the subsisting contracts sufficiently in advance keeping in view the circumstances obtaining in each case and the performance of the respective contractors. Hence, no special favour has been shown to Messrs. A H. Wheeler & Co. Similar action for renewal of contract has been taken in the case of other contractors like M/s. Higginbothams and Gulab Singh & Sons also.

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