

up the proposed petro-Chemical complex; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The comments of the Calcutta Port Trust have been called for.

#### Cancellation of passenger trains by the South Central Railway

280. SHRI GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 43 passenger trains were cancelled by the South Central Railway during January, 1979 due to shortage of coal; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to augment the supply of coal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) No. Only 24 passenger trains were fully/partially cancelled during January, 1979 on the South Central Railway due to shortage of coal.

(b) Close liaison is being maintained with the coal producing authorities and the Ministry of Energy so as to increase the availability of steam coal for the Railways.

#### Minister's visit to Burma

281. SHRI GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has visited Burma in January, 1979 and had discussions with the various leaders of that country; and

(b) if so, what is the outcome of said discussions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU):

(a) I paid a visit to Burma in January, 1979.

(b) The visit was in connection with the "India Week" organized by the Embassy of India in Rangoon. Nevertheless, opportunity was taken to have discussions with the Burmese leaders on international and bilateral matters. The visit has helped to further strengthen the Indo-Burmese relations.

#### Visit of Prime Minister of Malaysia to India

282. SHRI GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister of Malaysia visited India during January, 1979; and

(b) if so, what is the nature of discussions held with him and what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Besides reviewing the international situation, the two leaders covered the existing close bilateral relations between India and Malaysia. During the discussions the two Prime Ministers agreed that the existing wide range of cooperation between their two countries would be further extended. The visit provided an opportunity to the two Prime Ministers to sign the Technical and Economic Cooperation Agreement, and to the two Foreign Ministers to exchange Letters to cover extradition arrangements between India and Malaysia. A copy of the Joint Press Statement is placed on the Table of the House.