

Allotment of Paraffin Wax to Small Scale Industrial Units

*547. SHRI B. L. RAM DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state

(a) what is the criterion laid down for allocation of paraffin wax to different States;

(b) what percentage of the indigenously produced paraffin wax was allocated to Madhya Pradesh for its small scale industrial units during the year 1977 and what were the reasons for the allocation of this low percentage to the State;

(c) whether it is a fact that the industrial units in Madhya Pradesh have not received 260 M.T. of paraffin wax for which orders have already been booked;

(d) if so, whether the Central Government have sanctioned carry forward of the backlog to the year 1978; and

(e) if the answer to part (d) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The years allocations of indigenous paraffin wax to the States/Union Territories are made on the basis of total expected availability of wax in a particular year and the past upliftment performance of each State. In view of the limited indigenous availability of paraffin wax, for any additional requirements of wax, the State Governments were informed to advise the actual users under their jurisdiction to register their requirements with M/s Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd., Calcutta, who are the canalising agency for imports.

The total allocations of indigenous paraffin wax in favour of various States/Union Territories during 1977 aggregated to 42267 Metric Tonnes. A quota of 898 Metric Tonnes was allotted in favour of Madhya Pradesh during 1977 as against 598 Metric Tonnes during the previous year.

There was a shortfall of 145 Metric Tonnes in the positioning of paraffin wax in Madhya Pradesh *vis-a-vis* the State quota of 898 Metric Tonnes for 1977.

In view of the shortfall in despatches during 1977, wax allocations made in favour of Madhya Pradesh for the period January—June, 1978 have been enhanced by this quantity of 145 Metric Tonnes.

(e) Does not arise.

Loss on account of damage to film

*548. SHRI V. P. MUNUSAMY:

SHRI M. KADERSHAH;

SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN;

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 719 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th December, 1977 and state:

(a) whether the film "Too Late" produced by the Railwaymen's Fine Arts Society, Madras was purchased by Government on consideration of its cultural and educative value;

(b) what are the reasons for not making proper arrangements for its storage;

(c) whether the film was checked soon after the heavy downpour which caused damage to it; if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action Government have taken or propose to take against the persons responsible for the damage to the film in storage?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE):

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) At the request of the Railwaymen's Fine Arts Society, Madras the film with all rights was purchased by the Railways for use in the normal publicity programme on safety.

(b) The film was kept in a steel box and the storage arrangements were considered adequate.

(c) Yes, Sir. The film was examined soon after the heavy downpour by the officials of the Southern Railway, the Films Division of the Government of India and the Gemini Studios, Madras.

(d) An enquiry was instituted. It came to the conclusion that the damage to the film was caused by the heavy downpour. The rain water entered the room in which the box was kept and seeped into the box which damaged the film beyond repair. On the recommendation of the Enquiry Officer, the official responsible for safe keeping of the film was advised to be more alert in future.

Indemnity bond proforma used in Railways

*551. SHRI GUNANAND THAKUR:
SHRI PIARE LALL KUREEL:
URF PIARE LALL TALIB:
SHRI KHURSHED ALAM
KHAN.
SHRI JAGDISH JOSHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the indemnity bond proforma as used in the Railways requires the persons executing the bond to indicate his caste along with other particulars;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to modify the bond proforma so as to remove this requirement therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Derailement of goods train near Jaswantnagar

*552. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA:
SHRI KHURSHED ALAM
KHAN:
SHRI PIARE LALL KUREEL
URF PIARE LALL TALIB:
SHRI JAGDISH JOSHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last week of January 1978, 20 wagons of a goods train were derailed due to breakdown of the engine near Jaswantanagar Station on the Northern Railway; and

(b) whether this accident is attributable to negligence of the maintenance staff and if so, what action has been taken against the concerned official?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) On 26-1-1978, while Down Goods train No. E/932 was passing through Jaswantnagar station, its engine and 16 wagons derailed

(b) No, Sir. According to the finding of the Inquiry Committee, the accident was due to the failure of mechanical equipment.

Setting up of a petro-chemical complex at Cochin

*553. SHRI S. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for setting up of a petro-chemical Complex at Cochin has been under the Central Government's consideration for a long time;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to set up new petro-chemical plants during the year 1978-79;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Kerala Government proposal in this regard is also being considered for inclusion in the Annual Plan for 1978-79?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) and (b) Proposals have been received from time to time for setting up a Petro-chemical complex at Cochin. The initial proposals were with regard to a petro-chemical complex based on a Naphtha Cracker; the latest proposals envisage production of aromatics and use of gases from a catalytic cracker.

(c) and (d) Investment approvals have been issued for setting up the following new petro-chemical plants by IPCL at Baroda: