

(iv) to dictate orders in small 1  
cases in open courts;

(v) to dictate orders in other cases  
outside the court-hours or on Saturdays;  
and

(vi) to sit for five hours every day  
for hearing the cases.

'Sanction of cooking- gas connections

\*310. SHRIMATI SAROJ  
KHAPARDE; DR. V.  
P. DUTT:

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

(a) the number of cooking gas con-  
nections sanctioned by Government (during  
the period from the 1st April, 1977 to the 30th  
June, 1978;

(b) the number of applications for  
cooking gas connections rejected during the  
above period and the reasons for rejection  
thereof;

(c) the criteria adopted for sanctioning  
out of turn gas connections; and

(d) the number of applications for  
cooking gas connections pending at present?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM,  
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI  
H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) to (d) A statement  
giving the requisite information is laid on the  
Table of the Sabha.

#### Statement

(a) and (b) Applications for cooking gas  
connections are required to be registered with  
the cooking gas distributors of the oil  
companies. The gas connections are released by  
the distributors from amongst those who are  
registered on a 'first-come first-served' basis and  
a waiting list as maintained. There is thus no case  
of rejection of the applications registered. Some  
connections are being released by the  
distributors on priority basis on the advice of  
the oil

companies. Applications for gas connections  
received in the Ministry are passed on to the  
oil companies. In some cases advice is also  
being given to the oil companies by the  
Ministry for such priority connections. As per  
information received from the oil companies,  
about 1.5 lakh gas connections, including  
about 7,600 priority gas connections were re-  
leased by the oil companies during the period  
1st April, 1977 to 30th June, 1978.

(c) Generally, gas connections are given  
on priority to Members of Parliament and  
State Legislatures, other VIPs, foreign  
dignitaries, cases of hardships, commercial  
contacts, Government  
Organisations/Institutions etc.

(d) The number of persons borne on the  
waiting lists of the distributors of cooking gas  
of the oil companies is estimated to be about  
10.5 lakhs.

Cancellation of Suburban Trains at  
Bombay V. T.

\*311. SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA; SHRI S.  
W. DHABE; SHRI BAPURAOJI  
MAROTRAOJI DESHMUKH;  
SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA  
PANT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be  
pleased to state the reasons for the  
cancellation of suburban trains at Bombay  
V.T. on the 26th May, 1978, which led to  
mob violence and lathi charge resulting in  
injuries to a large number of persons?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF.  
MADHU DANDAVATE): Sir, on 26-5-1978  
at about 19.55 hours the Karjat local was  
cancelled due to a defective rake and it was  
indicated that the train would leave from  
another platform. This rake was also found  
defective and another rake was arranged from  
a different platform. The commuters got  
agitated and assaulted the Assistant  
Station

Master and Motorman. The Motor- I men and Guards suspended work as a result till midnight. Some commuters indulged in violence and set fire to a first class coach of a suburban train.

#### Production in Talcher Fertilizer Project

\*312. SHRI T. ANJIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rs. 185 crore Talcher Fertilizer Project is likely to go into production by the end of this year;

(b) what employment potential is likely to be generated after the plant goes into production;

(c) whether there is ready market for the total production from the plant within the Country and abroad; and

(d) what is the estimate of foreign exchange which the plant is likely to earn from its exports?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Some of the sections of the plant are being commissioned and trial production of urea is expected to begin in early 1979.

(b) The total manpower for the project is estimated at 1800.

(c) and (d) There will be no export of fertilizers from the plant and the entire production is meant for consumption within the country. It may be stated that since the demand for fertilizers in the country outstrips indigenous production, imports are arranged to meet the deficit.

Rates of stitching charges for the uniforms of the Railway employees

\*313. SHRI U. R. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the stitching charges paid by Government in respect of

uniforms of the railway employees; and

(b) whether Government propose to pay the amount direct to the staff for getting their uniforms stitched?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Rs-84 lakhs (approximately) annually.

(b) No, Sir.

Criminal cases against Managing Directors of M/s. Shaw Wallace and K Company

\*314. SHRI KALYAN ROY:  
SHRI BIR CHANDRA DEBI  
BURMAN:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to starred Question 154 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st November 1977." and state:

(a) what is the present position of the criminal cases pending against the Managing Director, Shri A. W. B. Hayward. Shri S. P. Acharya and others, of M/s. Shaw Wallace and? Company Limited;

(b) whether Shri Hayward has been allowed to leave the country during pendency of those cases; if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have since processed the steps to be taken to remove the directors of the company by starting a case before the High Court for appointment of Directors by Government; and

(d) if so, what is Government's decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.