

**CONSUMPTION OF COAL AND  
DIESEL OIL**

275. SHRI KASIM ALI ABID:

SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA:

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the scale fixed for consumption of coal and diesel for locomotives is not being maintained;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the consumption of coal and diesel exceeds by over 40 per cent over the prescribed scale; and

(c) what are the reasons for this excessive consumption and what preventive measures are proposed to be taken by the Railway administration to bring down consumption to the prescribed levels ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes, Sir; there has been some increase for the reasons mentioned in the statement referred to in part (c).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) A note indicating the position is laid on the Table of the House.

**. STATEMENT**

Fuel consumption of locomotives is dependent on a large number of variables inbuilt in train operation such as average loads and speeds of trains, detentions in yards and en route, punctuality of passenger trains etc. In addition, there are other unavoidable variables such as the quality of fuel, condition of locomotives and performance of crews. Thus, it is neither possible nor intended that the fuel consumption will strictly be to the targets (scale) fixed. Fuel consumption targets are laid down with a view to maximising efforts of all concerned to economise and hence are necessarily kept extremely stiff.

Disturbed conditions including agitations by Railway staff during 1973 followed by the general strike on Railways in May, 1974, had been adversely affecting the train operations which in turn has affected fuel

consumption. Effective control is exercised on factors within Railways, control through suitable organisation for the purpose on the Zonal Railways. Fuel economy is a continuing process and all-out efforts are being made to eliminate wastages.

**OIL PROSPECTS IN KASHMIR  
VALLEY**

276. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA:  
SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN:  
SHRI KASIM ALI ABID:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there are prospects of oil being located in the Kashmir Valley;

(b) if so, whether exploration work is proposed to be carried out there; and

(c) what are the details of plans in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYAV. On the basis of geological and geophysical work already completed, the ONGC plans to drill 4 wells of 1500 metres depth each at Raithan and Chattgram in Srinagar district and Watargam and Pattan in Bara-mula district in J&K State. The first well is likely to be spudded soon. Prospects of hydrocarbons, if any, can be known only after the wells are drilled and tested.

**पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान उर्वरक संयंत्रों पर होने वाला व्यय**

\*277. श्री राजनारायण : क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना की श्रवधि में स्थापित किये जाने वाले उर्वरक संयंत्रों पर कुल कितना धन व्यय होगा ?

**Money spent on fertiliser plants during  
Fifth Five Year Plan**

\*277. SHRI RAJNARAIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state the total outlay on the fertiliser plants to be set up during the Fifth Five Year Plan period ?]