

repeated demands for opening a railway line between Cochin and Kayamkulam; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal for the construction of railway line from Ernakulam to Kayamkulam via Alleppey has been included in the list of new railway lines proposed to be taken up in the Fifth Five Year Plan for the development of backward areas for which an additional allotment of Rs. 255 crores has been sought for from the Planning Commission. Its construction would depend upon the allotment of additional funds for this purpose.

Requirement of naphtha by National Organic Chemicals Ltd.

*579. SHRI JAGJIT SINGH
ANAND :

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA :

SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA :

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

(a) what is the requirement of naphtha by the National Organic Chemicals Industries Limited and to what extent the requirement has been met during the last two years, year-wise;

(b) whether the industry has been facing acute shortage of naphtha for some time; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to meet its requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM &
CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ

KHAN) : (a) M/s. National Organic Chemicals Industries Ltd., have a contract with M/s. Burmah-Shell for supply of Naphtha to their plant @ 2,25,000 tonnes per annum. Following supplies were effected by Burmah-Shell to NOCIL during 1972, 1973 and 1974.

(Figures in '000 mts.)

	Anticipated	Actual
1972	209.4	202 9
1973	230.0	228 6
1974 (Jan.-June)	114.0	105 3

(b) and (c) There has not been any significant shortage in supplies upto June 1974. Supplies in July 1974 were however affected to some extent because of the reduced crude throughput in Burmah-Shell Refinery. This was made up by additional supplies from Hindustan Petroleum Corporation. Arrangements for additional supplies of Naphtha will be continued so as to meet the requirements of NOCIL.

Diversion of wagons allotted to Coal Deposit Section, Moghulsarai

*580. SHRI INDERDEEP SINHA :
SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 143 wagons of Loco Coal allotted to Coal Deposit Section, Moghulsarai during the period from January to June, 1974 were diverted to M/s. Sonevalley Portland Cement Company Ltd., owned by the Sahu Jain Group of Companies during a period when the Railways were facing critical coal shortage; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what action has been taken against the railway officials responsible for this action?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

*581. [Transferred to 27th August, 1974].

Prices of DMT and Caprolactum manufactured by IPCL

*582. SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the basis of fixing the prices for DMT and Caprolactum manufactured by IPCL;

(b) what are the principles governing the release of these two basic raw materials to the actual users;

(c) whether DMT is released to Polyester Filament Yarn producers, who are utilising their capacity by way of diversification;

(d) whether the Government adopts any price difference in the release of these raw materials between fibre and filament yarn producers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (e) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (e) DMT and Caprolactum are being produced by the Indian Petrochemical Corporation Ltd., Baroda and Gujarat State Fertilizer Co., Baroda respectively.

In the fixation of price of DMT the Indian Petrochemical Corporation are

guided generally by the guidelines issued by the Govt. of India, Ministry of Finance (Bureau of Public Enterprises) in December 1968. The Corporation revises its pricing policy periodically so as to secure the realisation of reasonable return on capital investment while keeping the prices within the estimated landed cost of imports. DMT is being sold by the Indian Petrochemical Corporation to all actual users i.e., manufacturers of polyester fibre, polyester filament yarn and polyester resins in proportion to their requirements of DMT based on their respective licensed capacities. Same price viz., Rs. 16,000 per tonne plus excise duty is charged from all users. It is not considered necessary, desirable and feasible by the Indian Petrochemical Corporation to charge different prices with reference to end-uses of DMT.

Gujarat State Fertilizer Co. have fixed the price of Caprolactum in 25 Kg. bags at Rs. 26320 per tonne ex-factory excluding all excise and all other taxes. They have fixed this price after taking into account their cost of production, likely level of production etc. They propose to release Caprolactum to all consumers uniformly and proportionately according to their licenced capacities.

Filling up the posts of Assistants in Railway Board Office

1099. SHRI N. H. KUMBHARE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some posts of Assistants are lying vacant in Railway Board office ;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to fill up these posts; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for delay in filling up these posts ?