

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c) The revised cost is estimated at Rs. 24.76 crores as against Rs. 15.39 crores estimated earlier. The revised cost is under consideration in Government.

Reasons for increase are—

(i) earlier estimate was based on a preliminary offer whereas the revised estimated cost is based on firm and fixed prices,

(ii) change in parity rate of DM,

(iii) increase in the rate of custom duty,

(iv) installation of independent offsites and auxiliaries.

(v) escalation in the price of refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment,

(vi) construction of more residential units,

(vii) increase in cost of expatriate assistance,

(viii) increase in pre-production interest due to increase in the overall project cost, and

(ix) providing for two emergency diesel generating sets.

The project has already been taken up. Its foreign collaboration has been firmed up. Import licence for major equipment has been received and other preliminary work is going on.

#### Withdrawal of strike by railwaymen

29. SHRIMATI MAJMOONA SULTAN :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA :

SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA :

SHRI J. S. ANAND :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the details of the settlement reached with the Railway workers

after the withdrawal of the strike resorted to by them in May, 1974 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : The strike was withdrawn unconditionally from 6.00 hours of 28-5-1974. No settlement as such was reached when the strike was called off.

#### Burmah-Shell Oil Company

30. SHRI N. G. GORAY :

SHRI L. MAHAPATRO :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 3 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th April, '74 and state :

(a) whether Government have since started negotiations with Burmah-Shell Oil Company for its takeover ;

(b) whether these negotiations will also cover the question of the takeover of other wings of the company namely Burmah-Shell Oil Storage and Distributing Company India Ltd., and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Negotiations with railwaymen

31. SHRI N. G. GORAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government was negotiating with the representatives of railwaymen on their demands till 27th April, 1974;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the negotiations were discontinued by Government thereafter ;

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