

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been decided to abolish the Catering Supervisory Committees in all the Zonal Railways;

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

(c) what alternative arrangements are being made in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) The Railway Convention Committee, 1971 had recommended that a review of the usefulness of the existing Committees on the railways at different levels should be made in order to rationalise and reduce their number and to make them really effective. A review was accordingly made and as a result of the review it has been decided to abolish the Catering Supervisory Committees on the railways with effect from 1-4-1974 and to integrate their functions in the Zonal Railway User's Consultative Committees by making the Zonal Committees more broad-based in character.

Shares by Duncan Brothers in B. N. Elias and Company

955. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the purchase of shares by Duncan Brothers in B. N. Elias and Company;

(b) if so, the amount for which the shares have been acquired; and

(c) whether this deal has been cleared under the M.R.T.P. Act?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDAB-RATA BARUA): (a) As per the Annual

Return of B. N. Elias and Company Private Limited made upto 30th March, 1973, Duncan Brothers and Company Limited were not holding any share of the former company. The subsequent Annual Return has not yet been filed with the Registrar of Companies, Calcutta. The company has, however, informed the Registrar on enquiry that 5381 shares of B. N. Elias and Company Private Limited, have been transferred to Shri K. P. Goenka and some of his relatives/associated companies, which have not been registered under the M. R. T. P. Act.

(b) The information regarding the amount for which these shares have been acquired is not available with the Department.

(c) The deal has not been cleared under the M. R. T. P. Act.

956. [Transferred to the 22nd March, 1974.]

Seminar on power problems

957. DR. KUMARI SAROJINI KRISHNARAO BABAR:

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR:

SHRIMATI RATNABAI SREENIVASA RAO:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a seminar on power problems was held at Poona recently under the auspices of the Institution of Engineers;

(b) if so, the main recommendations thereof; and

(c) the measures under Government's contemplation in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI K. C. PANT):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Seminar made various recommendations in regard to power development, long-term planning, implementation of plans, research and development and organisational and management problems. Among the more important recommendations are the following :

1. Long term energy policy spanning at least twenty years and detailing recommended mix of hydro, thermal, nuclear and other forms of energy should be developed.

2. Accelerated development of hydro potential particularly, in the context of present fuel crisis should be undertaken.

3. Siting of new thermal plants should be oriented towards mine mouth Stations as well as towards coastal multifuel fired Stations. The National Site Survey Committee needs to identify sites, adequate for the next 20 years, indicating total site potential, adequacy of cooling water, waste disposal facilities, infra-structure necessary and other ecological considerations.

4. The need to establish adequately integrated regional grids during the Fifth Plan and augmenting the capability of inter regional ties and evolve the national power grid by the end of the sixth Plan.

5. Need to switch over progressively to the manufacture of the largest size units feasible viz., 200 MW units and 500 MW units.

6. To set up National Task forces with adequate facilities and with a time bound programme, to conduct R&D in the field of power industry. All these recommendations are being examined for taking appropriate action.

Sale of pornographic literature at railway stations

958. DR. KUMARI SAROJINI KRISHNARAO BABAR :
SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR :
SHRIMATI RATHNABAI SREENIVASA RAO :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether pornographic literature is being sold at railway stations; and

(b) if so, what measures have been taken to prevent the sale of such literature?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) and (b) Sale of pornographic literature at the railway stations is prohibited. Periodical inspections of the bookstalls at railway stations are carried out to ensure that no pornographic or otherwise objectionable literature is sold. Cases of display for sale of such literature coming to notice are immediately taken up with bookstall contractors.

Casual labour employed by contractors

959. SHRI GANESH LAL MALI :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the casual labour employed by the contractors for various works on Kangra Valley Railway Re-alignment Project are working under miserable conditions; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to ensure proper working conditions, including payment of minimum wages and wages in proportion to the nature and volume of work?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) and