

regard to the recruitment and promotion opportunities in the railways for the staff belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

(c) whether Government have also set up any machinery to redress the grievances of the railway staff belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b) There is a reservation quota of 15% for Scheduled Castes and 7½% for Scheduled Tribes in recruitment to vacancies which carry scales of pay rising above Rs. 375 p.m. For other vacancies, varying percentages have been prescribed for each Zonal Railway based on the percentage of population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as compared to the overall population of the area traversed by a particular railway.

In promotions a quota of 15% and 7½% is provided in posts filled (i) on the basis of seniority-cum-suitability in Class I, II, III and IV; (ii) by competitive examination limited to departmental candidates in Class II, III and IV; and (iii) by selection in Class III and IV, provided the element of direct recruitment to these grades does not exceed 50%.

(c) and (d) A special Cell has been set up in the Railway Ministry under a senior officer assisted by two Advisers one each from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Personnel Department on the zonal railways has also been strengthened by the addition of a Senior Personnel Officer with necessary staff on each railway for this important work.

207. [Transferred to the 15th March, 1974.]

Rationing of Petrol

208. **SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA :**
SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :
SHRI S. G. SARDESAI :
SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN :

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

(a) whether Government have recently taken any decision to introduce rationing of petrol; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b) No such decision has been taken yet; only the States and Centrally-Administered territories have been requested to keep contingency plans ready for introducing rationing at short notice.

Utilisation of Sewage Water for Irrigation

209. **SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Rs. 8-crore scheme for utilisation of sewage water for irrigation purposes was submitted by Delhi Administration;

(b) if so, Government's decision thereon; and

(c) the steps taken in pursuance thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Delhi Administration have drawn up an outline scheme for utilisation of sewage water for irrigation purposes in Delhi at an estimated cost of Rs. 6.7 crores. Detailed investigations are now being carried out by them.

The Central Water and Power Commission, who examined the outline proposals have asked for certain clarifications from the Delhi Administration, about the scheme, and these are awaited.

Assistance by Organisation of Petroleum Exporting countries to developing countries

210. **SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries have pledged to extend substantial assistance to the developing countries;

(b) if so, the details of the assistance sought from and offered by these oil producing States to India in the context of world wide petroleum crisis; and

(c) the latest prospects of obtaining crude oil supplies from each of these countries on concessional rates or under barter deals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c) The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries have under consideration proposals for assisting the developing countries. The discussions in this regard are still continuing and no final conclusions have been reached. In the meanwhile some bilateral assistance by way of deferred payment of part of the increased price of crude oil has been forthcoming. It is not in the public interest to disclose these details. The Member Governments of OPEC have not favoured any dual pricing system.