

his own agents is not adequate. We have, no doubt, a certain responsibility in seeing that the distribution which is made is on equitable basis, and we have been trying to see that when supplies are made to small consumers, they are made on the basis that all their previous consumption was on the basis of rational considerations or their requirements. I have myself met and received deputations of the small-scale sector people. I have talked to them personally, and I have been trying to solve this question of shortage as far as possible—both by rationalizing the supply, wherever possible, and by supplementing the deficit by imports.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PONG DAM OUSTERS

*581. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that official level negotiations between the Rajasthan and Himachal Governments to settle the dispute of rehabilitation of Pong Dam oustees have failed;

(b) whether it is also a fact that time limit for rehabilitation of the oustees has expired; and

(c) what is the number of such oustees and the action taken by Government for their rehabilitation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BAIJ NATH KUMAR REEL): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) and (b) No, Sir.

(a) According to Himachal Pradesh about 20,000 oustee families are likely to be displaced by Pong Dam Reservoir. Of these about 14,000 families are to be rehabilitated in 2.25 lakh acres of land earmarked in the Rajasthan Canal area. Rest will be taken care of by Himachal Pradesh Government.

Himachal Pradesh Government had raised certain objections over the rules of allotment of land framed by Rajasthan Government. The controversial points were recently discussed by the representatives of the two Governments and their recommendations are under consideration by the two Governments. The movement of oustees and allotment of land will start as soon as the joint recommendations have been accepted.

RESERVATION FROM PATHANKOT TO NEW DELHI

*582. SHRI CHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received from some Members of Parliament against officials of Booking Office at Pathankot Railway station to the effect that letters/directions from M.Ps. sent by post recently regarding reservation of seats from Pathankot to New Delhi in III class compartment were not complied with and

(b) if so, the findings of the enquiry made in this regard and the action taken against the erring officials?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b) One complaint was recorded in the Complaint Book at Pathankot Railway station on 24-10-1972 stating that no reservation for travel in first class by 60 Dn. Srinagar Express was provided to an Hon'ble Member of the Parliament till 9.00 P.M. of 24-10-1972, though a request had been made at Pathankot on 23-10-1972 and earlier through the Parliament House Reservation office. Enquiries reveal that the accommodation could not be provided to the Hon'ble Member earlier than at 9.00 P.M. of the day owing to staff failure. Those responsible have been taken up for the lapse.

FERTILIZER PLANT AT DURGAPUR

*583. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the commissioning of the Fertilizer plant