

†THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QUARESHI): (a) to (c) Sir, two statements are laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix LXXXII. Annexure No. 1 and %].

NATIONAL WATER GRID

♦18. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN:

SHRI K. A. KRISHNASWAMY: SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN: SHRI SITARAM KESRI: SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA: SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAI: SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN: SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD: SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: SHRI SHYAMLAL GUPTA: SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the report of the Expert Committee of the United Nations on National Water Grid connecting Ganga with Cauvery was handed over to him while he was in New York for an inter-Governmental meeting on the use of waters;

(b) if so, whether he had discussions on various aspects of the report with the U.N. Director of the Resources and Transport Division;

(c) if the reply to part (b) be in the affirmative, how far Government have accepted the recommendations and

(d) what steps are being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The recommendations of the report are receiving attention. After acceptance, it is proposed to take up field investigations and office studies of the National Water Grid in general and the proposed Ganga Cauvery Link Scheme in particular.

†] English translation.

CRUDE OIL FROM IRAN

• 14. SHRI VEERENDRA

PATIL: SHRI BANARSI DAS:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 171 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7th August, 1972 and state what quantity of crude to be imported from Iran will be carried to India by Indian ships?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): It is difficult to forecast the quantity of crude likely to be carried by Indian ships. In accordance with the Government's policy and procedure, all available Indian tankers are utilised provided they are available in the required position at competitive rates and only when Indian tankers are not available, foreign tankers are chartered to carry crude oil.

STRIKE BY LOCO RUNNING STAFF OF SOUTHERN AND SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAYS

♦15. SHRI K. C. PANDA:

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL:

SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

SHRI GANESHI LAL CHOUDHARY:

SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:

SHRI S. D. MISRA:

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL:

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI:

SHRI BANARSI DAS:

SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL:

SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN:

SHRI K. A. KRISHNASWAMY:

SHRI PATIL PUTTAPPA:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE:

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA:

SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON:

SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN:

SHRI MAN SINGH VARMA:

SHRI V. K. SAKHLECHA:

SHRI J. P. YADAV:

SHRI RATTAN LAL JAIN:

SHRI O. P. TYAGI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to resolve the issues which led to the strike and mass absenteeism by the loco running staff

of Southern and South Central Railways in September this year and the assurances, if any, given to the employees before the strike was called off;

(b) the details regarding disruption of passenger and goods traffic caused due to the strike and the resultant loss of revenue to the railways; and

(c) the details of the agreement, if any, reached with the staff unions in relation to the dispute?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

The strike started on Hubli Division of the South Central Railway on the afternoon of 29-8-72, after the General Manager had declined to accept a memorandum from the unrecognised All India Loco Running Staff Association. It spread to the Southern Railway on 1.9.72.

No demands were made by the strikers before they went on strike. However, demands were made subsequently as detailed below:—

(i) A set of 7 demands was submitted by the Secretary of Mysore Division of the All India Loco Running Staff Association through a letter dated 3-9-72.

(ii) A set of 9 demands was submitted by an Action Committee and Zonal Secretary of the All India Loco Running Staff Association, Southern Zone through a letter dated 9.9.72.

(iii) A list of 10 demands was given by the Negotiating Committee Members of the Southern and South Central Railways of that Association to the Railway Minister on 21.10.72.

Apart from the fact that no demand was presented immediately before going on strike, the demands have been changing from time to time.

2. No assurances were given to the staff before the strike was called off.

3. The grievances of the Loco Running Staff including those mentioned in the above lists of demands have been represented in the past and continue to be represented by the recognised Unions and Federations at various levels and negotiations have been held with them and action as warranted taken through the duly constituted Permanent Negotiating Machinery and the Joint Consultative Machinery,

1. On account of strike on the Southern and South Central Railways, 80 goods trains had to lie stabled on different Railways for nearly three weeks, immobilising about 4,000 wagons per day during the period.

As for passenger trains, 56 trains were cancelled on the Southern Railway on 3-9-72. This number rose to 184 on the next day and ranged between 350 and 180 from the 5th to 19th September whereafter it declined gradually.

5. The loss in revenue on account of the strike is estimated to be about Rs. 88.67 lakhs on the Southern Railway and Rs. 72.52 lakhs on the South Central Railway.

ARREST OF EMPLOYEES OF CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

♦16. SHRI M. R. VENKATARAMAN: SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees of Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, Chittaranjan, who were arrested under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act during the last three years; and

(b) the nature of activities for which they were arrested?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) The number of employees arrested during the period from 1st January 1970 to 24th October 1972 was 17.

(b) These employees were arrested by the Police authorities without consulting the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works Administration. The charges framed against each individual are not known.

IMPORT OF CRUDE OIL FROM IRAQ

*17. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI: SHRI K. B. CHETTRI: SHRI GANESH LAL MALI: SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE: SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI: SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: SHRI BHOLA PRASAD: SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA: DR. Z. A. AHMAD: