

for extension of some trains at least upto Scaldah station, and

(b) if so whether Government have any scheme for extending the routes of Barasat Hasnabad trains upto Scaldah Station and by what time the scheme will be given effect to?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD SHAH QURISHI) (a) and (b) Extension of Barasat Hasnabad train, upto Scaldah station is neither desirable as it would affect the movement of traffic on the busy electrified Barasat Scaldah Section, nor operationally feasible due to limited terminal facilities at Scaldah.

RAISE IN ROYALTY ON CRUDE OIL

54 MISS SAROJ PURUSHOTAM KHAPARDI Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No 557 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th August 1972 and state

(a) whether Government have since agreed to the proposal of raising royalty on crude oil produced in the States of Gujarat and Assam and

(b) if so what would be its impact on the finances of Oil and Natural Gas Commission?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H R GOKHALE) (a) Yes. The new rate of royalty of Rs 15 per tonne is applicable in respect of crude oil produced throughout India.

(b) On an expected production of 425 million tonnes in 1972-73 the additional impact on the finances of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission will be of the order of Rs 213 crores during the said year.

SHINE VALLEY PROJECT IN KERALA

55 SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMNAD

SHRI S KUMARAN

SHRI K P SUBRAMANIA MENON

SHRI SALIL KUMAR GANGULI

(b) if so whether the technical sanction for the project has since been issued by Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BALI NAITH KUREEL)

(a) Yes, Sir. Recently the revised proposals submitted by the State authorities are for putting up a concrete arch dam as against a masonry gravity dam proposed earlier.

(b) The Advisory Committee for Power Projects have recently approved the project on the basis of the recommendations made by the Central Water and Power Commission who have suggested that the question whether the dam should be a masonry gravity or concrete arch one should be decided on the basis of the relative economics of the offers that would be received on tendering. Sanction of Planning Commission is awaited.

PRICE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IN KERALA

56 SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMNAD

SHRI S KUMARAN

SHRI MONORANJAN ROY

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government of India have permitted the Oil Companies in Kerala to increase the price of their products consumed in the State if so the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H R GOKHALE) The basic ceiling selling prices of certain petroleum products sold in Kerala were increased w.e.f. 10.5.1972 to compensate the oil companies for the losses suffered by them as a result of the imposition of Purchase Tax by the Government of Kerala.

ASSISTANCE FROM RAILWAY SAFETY WORKS FUND

57 SHRI S KUMARAN Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No 77 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th August 1972 and state