

current year of approximately 2 million tonnes. The balance quantity is being imported from other sources on the basis of competitive tenders and no contracts have been signed for this purpose with any other country.

The Indian Oil Corporation has not signed any contract for the import of crude oil from Bangladesh as that country does not export any crude oil. The only contract signed for the import of crude oil is between the IOC and the Iraq National Oil Company. This contract provides for the import of upto 250,000 tonnes of crude oil for the Barauni Refinery until the end of this year.

Loss DUE TO PILFERAGE AND THEFT AT MUGHALSARAI

495. SHRI SHYAMLAL YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of loss due to pilferage and theft at Mughalsarai during the last three years ; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) The extent of loss due to thefts and pilferages in Mughalsarai circle during the last three years was as under :

Year		Rs.
1969	...	86,308
1970	...	220,304
1971	...	211,368.

(b) An intensive drive to eradicate crime in Mughalsarai area has been launched. The security arrangements at Mughalsarai have been strengthened. A post of Security Officers has been created. Additional armed force has been provided for patrolling in the vital sectors of the yard. Escorting of goods trains by the armed personnel has been introduced. Frequent raids are organised jointly with the help of police, and the persons found indulging in criminal

activities or found in possession of any stolen Railway property are brought to book.

REPRESENTATION REGARDING IMPROVEMENTS IN RAILWAY SYSTEM

496. SHRI DWIJENDRALAL SEN GUPTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received representations regarding (i) construction of a bridge between Jiaganj and Azimganj ; (ii) doubling old Sealdah-Bongaon section ; (iii) doubling of Jubilee Bridge and (iv) electrification of Ranaghat Gede Section on the Eastern Railway ; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter ?

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

(b) (i) There is no justification.

(ii) The matter is under examination.

(iii) The doubling of Jubilee Bridge is not technically possible as the bridge cannot take a double track.

(iv) The proposal has been examined and not found financially justified.

EXPORT OF COIR AND IMPORT OF DRY-FRUIT BY STATE AGENCIES

497. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the entire export of coir and import of dry fruits is proposed to be entrusted to State Trading Agencies ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) when this proposal is likely to be implemented ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE): (a) to (c) To ensure greater dynamism towards meeting increasing international competition and to prevent undue exploitation of weaker sections engaged in the coir industry, there is a proposal to canalise export trade of coir. The import of dry fruits is intended to be entrusted to a state trading agency to avoid any undue profiteering in this item. Action is being taken in regard to the above, with a view to ensuring early implementation of these proposals.

PRODUCTION, DEMAND AND IMPORT OF CRUDE OIL

498. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) what was the comparative production, demand and import of crude oil during the last three years;

(b) whether the refinery capacities were expanded these years to meet the demand; and if so, by how much ; and

(c) whether Government propose to expand the capacity of Koyali refinery; and if so, the extent thereof, the period likely to be taken in the implementation of the proposal and the extent to which the demand is likely to be met as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE) : (a) The production, import and requirements of crude oil during the last three years were as follows :—

<i>Quantity in million tonnes</i>			
<i>Year</i>	<i>Indigenous production</i>	<i>Imports</i>	<i>Requirements*</i>
1969	6.7	10.7	17.5
1970	6.8	11.7	18.5
1971	7.2	12.7	19.6

* In terms of actual refinery throughput.

(b) The refining capacity increased by 2.5 million tonnes per annum about the middle of 1969 on commissioning of the Madras Refinery. The refining capacity increased by another 0.2 million tonnes per annum when the lube refinery of Lube India Limited commenced production in December, 1969. A further increase of 0.4 million tonnes per annum occurred in 1971 by increase in the refining capacity of the Koyali refinery by debottlenecking. The present refining capacity in the country is 9.8 million tonnes per annum.

(c) The study Group set up by the Government to examine the proposal for expansion of the Koyali Refinery to a capacity of 5.5 million tonnes per annum to meet the growing demand of products in the economic supply area of this Refinery, submitted its report in November, 1971. In the absence of the increased crude

availability from oil fields in Gujarat, it would be necessary to base the expansion scheme on imported crude oil to supplement indigenous production. The Indian Oil Corporation have been asked to prepare a feasibility report for it. The expansion scheme, if approved, is expected to be completed in the Fifth Plan period and is expected to be adequate for meeting the demands of the region.

EXPORT OF MICA

499. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India is the largest exporter of crude Mica and that almost 85 per cent of the world consumption is at present supplied by India;