

Railway line from Pathankote to Udhampur and Jammu;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, when Government propose to start the work of constructing the Railway line; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) No.

(b) In view of the reply to part (a), the question does not arise.

(c) The difficult ways and means position combined with the fact that there is already a long list of high priority projects approved of by the Central Board of Transport.

EX-NIZAM'S STATE RAILWAY

*843. **Shri Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent and to what categories of staff the Adjudicator's award has been implemented on the ex-N.S. Railway;

(b) the categories of staff to whom the Adjudicator's award has not been implemented though they come under the purview of the award; and

(c) the saving effected by the railway administration consequent on the non-implementation of the award?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) The benefits of the Hours of Employment regulations as modified by the Adjudicator's Award have been extended in full to all categories of staff of the ex-N. S. Railway in the Engineering, Mechanical, Stores and Accounts Departments, and Class IV staff of the Medical and Transportation Departments; in respect of the Commercial Department, and Class III staff of the Transportation and Medical Departments, the extension of these benefits is in hand and progress is estimated at 50 per cent.

(b) The benefits of the Award have not yet been extended to the Running Staff, Travelling Ticket Examiners and Scalesmen, and about 50 per cent. of the Assistant Station Masters, and Train Examining Staff. In the case of Medical Department, 5 posts have been filled out of 8 required for completing the extension of the benefits of the Award.

(c) The implementation of the Award must necessarily take time to be completed and there is no question of the Administration effecting any saving.

राजस्थान और मध्यभारत के आदि-

वासी क्षेत्रों के लिये रेलवे लाइन

*८४४. श्री डामर : क्या रेल

मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने पहले कभी बी० बी० एंड सी० आई० की बड़ी लाइन के आर पार उत्तर से सुदूर दक्षिण तक जाने वाली एक ऐसी रेल लाइन निकालने के लिये कोई योजना बनायी थी, जो राजस्थान और मध्यभारत के आदि-वासियों के क्षेत्र में हो कर जाये;

(ख) यदि बनाई थी तो उस सम्बन्ध में निर्माण कार्य कब से हाथ में ले लिया जाने वाला है ; और

(ग) यदि नहीं बनाई थी, तो क्या हाल में कोई योजना बनायी गयी है ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) The following north-south connections in Rajasthan and Madhya Bharat have been under consideration:—

(i) Ajmer-Kotah, and (ii) Bhusaval-Tarana Road.

(b) The first project was considered by the Central Board of Transport and dropped. The second proposal is under reference with the Madhya Bharat Government. The Government are not in a position at this stage to say if and when construction is likely to be undertaken.

(c) The question does not arise.

AHMEDABAD—KHERWARA NATIONAL HIGHWAY

*845. **Shri Bheekha Bhal:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of Ahmedabad Kherwara National highway No. 8 has been taken up;

(b) if so, the progress made on this road project up till now; and

(c) the time by which the work will be completed?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Sri Saahas Chandra): (a) and (b). The Construction work has not been commenced but surveys are in progress to select a suitable alignment and to prepare plans and estimates for the work.

(c) It is hoped that the road work will be completed by 1957-58.

PARLAKIMEDI LIGHT RAILWAY

***846. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert the Parlakimedi Light Railway (B. N. Ry.) to broad gauge line; and

(b) if so; when will it be taken up?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Sri Satish Chandra):

(a) Yes.

(b) It is not possible at this stage to state if and when the work of conversion of the Parlakimedi Light Railway would actually be taken in hand.

ONGOLE—HYDERABAD RAILWAY LINE

***847. Shri Kandasamy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the question of constructing a Railway line between Ongole to Hyderabad via Cumbhum to open up to hinter-land of Guntur, Nalgonda-Karimnagar and Adilabad Districts was suggested in Parliament; and

(b) whether Government propose to get this project investigated and if so, when?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) The matter is being looked into and a statement will be laid in due course on the Table of the House.

(b) There are already a large number of projects approved by the Central Board of Transport the implementation of which will take several years due to the difficult ways and means position. No useful purpose therefore is likely to be served by carrying out any investigation for Ongole-Hyderabad line at this stage, as a survey if carried out now will become out of date a few years hence.

CENTRAL RAILWAY ADVISORY BOARD

***848. Shri Kandasamy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Railway Advisory Council will be continued;

(b) if so, whether both Houses of Parliament will be called upon to elect an equal number of representatives;

(c) if so, when the new Council will be constituted;

(d) how the local Railway Advisory Councils will be reconstituted in the light of the Re-grouping; and

(e) what steps will be taken to associate the local Members of both Houses of Parliament with these Councils?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) to (c). The matter is under consideration of Government.

(d) and (e). The reorganisation of these advisory bodies is under consideration of Government.

PROCUREMENT OF RICE IN MADHYA PRADESH

***849. Shri Kirolikar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what quantity of rice has been procured by Government in the rice producing districts of the Madhya Pradesh State and from the Durg District till 1st May, 1952;

(b) the States to which rice has been transported and in what quantity; and

(c) the quantity of rice which has been transported from Durg District to Travancore Cochin State?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmakar): (a) 1,83,812 tons of rice were procured by the Madhya Pradesh Government during the period 1-11-51 to 30-4-52. This figure includes 18,500 tons of rice procured from the Durg district.

(b) During the period 1-11-51 to 26-4-52 Madhya Pradesh Government despatched 8,853 tons of rice to Bombay, 9,975 tons of rice to Madras and 5,516 tons of rice to Travancore-Cochin.

(c) From Durg district of Madhya Pradesh 2,000 tons of rice were despatched to Travancore-Cochin during the two weeks that ended on 3-5-52.