

increasing day by day in the Khurda Road Division;

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take for running the trains in time; and

(d) the action Government propose to take against the ticketless travellers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) The punctuality performance of all passenger carrying trains over Khurda Road Division during November, 80 to January, 81 ranged between 90 to 95 per cent.

(b) No.

(c) All feasible efforts are being made to improve the punctuality of trains further.

(d) The Railway is fully seized of the problem of ticketless travel on Khurda Road Division. In addition to regular and surprise checks of various kinds, massive drives are also being conducted by mobilising a large force of ticket checking staff, Railway Protection Force, Government Railway Police and local police personnel in association with Railway Magistrates. These checks are being further intensified.

Extension of Salem-Dharmapuri Day-Time passenger Train to Bangalore

2218. SHRI N. SOUNDARAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether Government propose to extend Salem-Dharmapuri daytime passenger trains to Bangalore to meet the needs of the public?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): Two pairs of trains are

scheduled to run between Salem and Bangalore. There is no train running between Salem and Dharmapuri at present and therefore question of its extension does not arise.

Double Lines in Kerala

2219. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposed scheme of double-lining in Kerala;

(b) the total length to be covered and so far covered; and

(c) the period by which the proposed length would be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) Doubling of the following three remaining patches on the Shoranur-Ernakulam line has been included in 1981-82 Budget at a cost of Rs. 3.21 crores:

(i) Mulagunnathukavu- Trichur (8.98 kms).

(ii) Irinjalakuda-Chalakkudi (6.23 kms).

(iii) Angamali-Alwaye sections (9.12 kms.).

(b) On the 87.43 kms. long Shoranur-Alwaye section, doubling of two patches i.e. Mullurcarai-Wadakancheri and Pudukad-Irinjalakuda covering an aggregate length of 18.5 kms. has been opened for traffic. Doubling of four patches i.e. Shoranur-Mullurcarai, Wadakancheri-Mulagunnathukavu, Trichur-Pudukad and Chalakkudi-Angamali covering an aggregate length of 44.6 kms. is in progress.

(c) About three years.