

Railway Line for Dandakaranaya Project

*122. { Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
Shrimati Ha Palchowdhury:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 133 on the 21st November, 1958 and state the progress since made in the preliminary work for starting survey operations on the proposed railway line for Dandakaranaya Project?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S V Ramaswamy): A Preliminary Engineering, Final Location and Traffic survey for a railway line between Bailadilla and Kottavalasa has only just been sanctioned on 2nd January, 1959 at a cost of Rs 20 lakhs and arrangements are in hand for collecting equipment and personnel

Integral Coach Factory

*123 Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state.

(a) when the second shift at the Integral Coach Factory, Perambur, will be introduced,

(b) the number of skilled workers proposed to be entertained for the second shift; and

(c) what will be the increase in the turn out of coaches consequent upon the introduction of the second shift?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan). (a) In the near future

(b) The details of skilled workers are to be worked out

(c) About 300 additional Steel-bodied Coaches per annum, when second shift working is fully established

Reclamation of "Usar Land"

*124. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Botanical Laboratory has done any successful research for the reclamation of 'Usar Land';

(b) what are the broad outlines of the scheme, and

(c) what advantage has been taken or is proposed to be taken of the research?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. F. Jain): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha

STATEMENT

The Director, National Botanic Gardens, Lucknow, is conducting some experiments on reclamation of alkaline lands. The work is still in the experimental stage, but results so far obtained are encouraging. Brief details of the scheme are given below.

In 1956, the Government of Uttar Pradesh placed 120 acres of alkaline lands at the disposal of the Director, National Botanic Gardens, Lucknow, for finding out ways and means of reclaiming them. The Director, National Botanic Gardens, adopted biological and agronomical methods and discovered that certain water plants had the power of removing sodium from the soil and thus lowering the alkalinity. The area under these experiments has since been extended and the results of the investigations are being tested by cultivating different types of plants including fruit trees, vegetables, crops and medicinal plants on the reclaimed lands.

The results of researches, if successful, will be brought to the notice of the State Governments for utilisation on as big a scale as possible.