

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That would be difficult for me. I am sorry. I will go according to the list.

Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: In view of the series of accidents in recent months, may I know whether the recommendations of the Railway Enquiry Committee of 1954 were effectively implemented?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question has been put. The answer may be given.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I am sorry. Yes.

Shri Narasimhan: Cannot Question No. 293 be taken?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have already said I will go according to the list.

Broad Gauge line from Guntakal to Hospet

*269. **Shri Agadi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the extending of the broad gauge line from Guntakal to Hospet on Southern Railway is finally decided for facilitating the iron ore traffic;

(b) if so, when the work is likely to be started and completed;

(c) the total estimated cost of this line extension;

(d) if the reply to the part (a) above be in the negative, whether there is any proposal of this nature;

(e) if so, the reason for delaying the same; and

(f) whether it is a fact that the Government of Mysore are not in favour of the proposal since it is detrimental to the development of the Mysore State West Coast Ports?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The scheme is under consideration.

(b) Preliminary investigation and Engineering Survey are in progress.

Decision on the commencement of construction of this line will be taken after consideration of the survey report. It is too early to say when the work may be completed.

(c) About Rs. 630 lakhs.

(d) and (e). Do not arise, in view of replies to parts (a) and (b) of the question.

(f) No such advice has been received from the Government of Mysore.

Shri Shankaraiya: May I know whether along with this line, the Hospet Kharwar line will be taken linking with Hubli?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: It is much too early to say anything at this stage.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The Deputy Minister for Railways Shri S. V. Ramaswamy, during his tour in the south, has categorically stated that this line will be taken up during the Third Plan. Now, the Minister says that it is under consideration.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: It will be surveyed.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: That was for election purposes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Ex-Food and Civil Supply Staff

*270. **Shri Nath Pal:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after absorption of the Ex-Food and Civil Supply Staff in Railways they did not get the higher starting salary in spite of their long and past service to the Government;

(b) whether all other Central Ministries except the Railways have granted the higher starting salary to the Ex-Food and Civil Supply Staff absorbed under them;

(c) whether there is any uniform policy in this regard in all the Central Government Departments;