

that the Ahmedabad Municipality will make many times this amount by selling all the land that would be vacated by the present railway track?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: The cost as estimated by the railways is Rs. 65 lakhs and not Rs. 75 lakhs. We have not actually worked out the figures of what income would accrue to the State Government by sale of one particular area of land, how much the railways would gain. That we have not calculated.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Sir, this is a new principle. The Ahmedabad Municipality is giving subsidy to the Government of India for shifting the railway. May I know whether they have adopted this principle anywhere else in India?

Mr. Speaker: It has not been said to be a principle. They wanted the change and they have to bear the expense.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: What about this land of the railway?

Mr. Speaker: I am not allowing any more questions because they do not arise out of this.

Air Port At Pasighat

*262. **Shri D. Ering:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a scheme to have a new and bigger airport at Pasighat (NEFA); and

(b) if so, when the construction is to be started?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) and (b). The question of constructing an aerodrome at a new site at Pasighat is under consideration.

Shri D. Ering: From the points of view of national interest and strategic importance I feel that the immediate construction of the proposed air field is very essential. What are the reasons for the delay?

Shri Mohiuddin: It is being actively considered, and it will be expedited as suggested by the hon. Member.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know what processes have already been gone through in considering the matter, whether a project report has been prepared, whether estimates have been submitted? At what stage of consideration is the matter?

Shri Mohiuddin: It is at the first stage, namely that the site has been selected provisionally. It has still got to be finally decided whether it is the most suitable site, whether it will be available or not.

Salem-Bangalore Rail Link

*263. **Shri Narasimhan:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) when the final location survey of the Salem-Bangalore metre gauge link will be completed;

(b) whether the Railway stations proposed on the line are to be located close to the town; and

(c) what is the estimated distance of the railway stations on this line from the townships they will pass through or touch?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) By the end of this year.

(b) and (c). Exact locations of the rail stations will not be known till the survey is completed. However, efforts will be made to locate the stations as close to the towns as possible.

Shri Narasimhan: May I know whether major bridges have to be constructed in this line; if so, how many of them are contemplated?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: So far, orders have been issued for the construction of three bridges—two over Sarabanga and one over Veppadi rivers. The other bridges will be taken up in due course.

Shri Narasimhan: May I know when a final decision will be taken as to the alignment from Hosur to Bangalore, for which there are three alternative routes?