

Gauge Conversion

*536. **SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated total distance for which conversion from narrow gauge to broad gauge is expected to be achieved during the Eighth Five Year Plan, Zone-wise;

(b) the estimated expenditure proposed to be incurred for this purpose;

(c) whether separate allocation has been made for this; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) The details are given below:—

Railway	Distance (kms.)
Central	42 + 189*
South Eastern	287
Western	45
	374 + 189*

* Subject to Planning Commission's approval.

(b) Rs. 380 crores approximately.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The approximate break-up of allocation, zone-wise is as under:—

Central Railway	Rs. 170 crores.
South Eastern Railway	Rs. 190 crores.
Western Railway	Rs. 20 crores.

[Translation]**Fuelwood and Fodder Projects**

*537. **SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI:** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh have sent any proposal to the Union Government to cover 27 districts of the State under fuelwood and Fodder projects scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the cost involved in each case;

(c) whether the Government have received such proposals from other States also;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which these projects are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). The State Government of Madhya Pradesh had sent in November 1991 a proposal of Rs. 58.10 crores to take up plantation activities in 27 districts of the State over the period 1992-93 to 1997-98 under the 50 % centrally sponsored Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Projects Scheme (AOFFP). The proposal could not be sanctioned because, under the AOFFP, projects are sanctioned on an annual basis keeping in view the State Government's 50% matching share and the identified fuelwood deficit districts. However, on separate proposals received from the State Government, a total of Rs. 6.34 crores of financial assistance