

(b) and (c). No year-wise and State-wise allocations are made under Total Literacy Programme. District specific proposals are sanctioned by the competent authority based on the preparedness of the district to take up total literacy campaign and also on the recommendation of the State Government. However, an amount of Rs. 1252.00 lakhs has been released from 1992 as central share for implementation of total literacy campaigns in Gujarat. The grant is sanctioned project-wise and not year-wise. The projects run for a period from one to three years. The actual expenditure is known only after the projects are over.

(d) As per the latest report from the State Government, 30.19 lakh illiterates in the age group 9-35 years have been made literate under this programme so far.

Doubling of Railway Line

262. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1211 on March 21, 1995 and state :

(a) whether the land has been handed over to Railway by Kerala Government in connection with the doubling of the railway line between Quilon and Trivandrum;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the percentage of progress made in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken to speed up the work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) and (b). Out of 25 hectares land required for the project, only 5.07 hectares has been handed over by the State Government so far. The progress with regard to land acquisition is 22%.

(c) The land acquisition is being done by the State Government and the progress of work will depend upon this. In the meanwhile, work on the long lead items such as major bridges, road-over bridges are being taken up. Earthwork in formation has been commenced between Trivandrum and Kazhakuttam where the land has already been handed over by the State Government.

Dialogue with Kashmiri Ultras

263. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kashmiri Ultras have changed their attitude to have a dialogue with Union Government without Pakistani participation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT

OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) and (b). The Government is aware of the press reports regarding the offer of certain militant leaders to hold talks with the Government to help resolve the Kashmir issue.

(c) Government have continued to maintain that it is open to dialogue and discussions with various individuals and groups with the aim of building up an environment, and further consolidating the improved situation in the State, so that peace and normalcy can be restored and a democratic and representative Government brought about through free and fair elections at the earliest. The Government shall continue to follow this approach and pursue its efforts towards achieving the above objective and there shall be no let-up in the efforts in this regard.

[Translation]

Electrification of Railway Line

264. SHRI PREM CHAND RAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating electrification of Mughalsarai-Patna-Howrah Railway Line;

(b) if so, whether any time limit has been fixed for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) The electrification of Mughalsarai-Patna-Sitarampur section is an approved work which is under execution. Part of the section is already electrified and work is proceeding apace. Sitarampur-Howrah section has been electrified long ago.

(b) and (c). The electrification of Sitarampur-Patna-Mughalsarai section is planned to be completed in March, 99 subject to availability of resources.

[English]

Missing of Aircraft

265. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the PRIME MINISTER, be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Sea Harrier Aircraft of the Indian Navy on a routine night flying exercise over the Arabian Sea has been reported missing off Goa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been ordered into it;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future ?