

(b) the details of the present stock of rakes/coaches, the number of rakes/coaches actually available for service and the number needed for service in the Sealdah and Howrah divisions of Eastern Railway and South Eastern Railway; and

(c) the number of overage coaches/rakes still in service?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The present holding of EMUs on Eastern and South Eastern Railways is 135 rakes/1245 coaches, both for traffic service requirements as well as for running maintenance and periodic overhaul.

(c) 157 coaches as on 1-4-1991.

Railway Line from Ambaguda to Kesinga (SER)

*316. SHRI K. PRADHANI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a railway line from Ambaguda to Kesinga in Waltair Division;

(b) if so, whether the survey for this project has been completed;

(c) the cost of the project and when it is proposed to be constructed; and

(d) the places in Koraput and Kalahandi districts likely to be connected by this railway line?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Though no survey has been done from Amagura-Kesinga, a survey was done in 1965-66 from Lanjigarh Road to Amagura. Keeping in view the proposed Alumina Plant near Bhawanipatna, survey for part of the route from Lanjigarh Road (Near Kesinga) to Junagarh has been

updated in 1990-91. Construction of the line from Lanjigarh Road to Junagarh (54 km) at a cost of Rs. 80 crores has been approved by the Planning Commission for being taken up subject to the coming up of the Alumina Plant. The surveyed line passes through Bhawanipatna.

ONGC Complex at Ramanathapuram

*317. DR. V. RAJESHWARAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount to be spent on drilling operations in Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up an Oil and Natural Gas Commission office complex at Ramanathapuram;

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) Two wells have been drilled in the past at a cost of Rs. 0.7 crores. Four wells are to be drilled at an estimated cost of Rs. 13 crores.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Oil Exploration and Production by Indian and Foreign Companies

*318. SHRI MORESHWAR
SAVE:

SHRI INDARJIT
GUPTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to invite tenders from the international and national oil companies for accelerating the pace of crude oil production and exploration;