

[English]

**Railway Line from Jogighopa to
Silchar**

1328. SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to start survey of Railway line from Jogighopa to Silchar immediately;

(b) whether a survey was already done for B.G. Line from Lanka to Silchar and the report submitted thereon;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to review the survey report for Lanka-Silchar only with a length not exceeding 250 kms; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a)and(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A feasibility study carried out in 1984 for providing a BG link between Lanka and Silchar revealed that the estimated cost of the 208.75 kms. long line would be Rs. 658.00 crores at 1983-84 price level. The present cost of the proposal may well be over Rs. 1150 crores.

(d) No such limitations is proposed.

(e) Northeast Frontier Railway will update the survey for the new BG line

between Lanka and Silchar also as an alternative to Jogighopa-Silchar new BG line.

Decrease in Railway Employees

1329. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a decrease in the number of railway employees during the last three years ;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) to (c). The staff strength on Indian Railways is regulated according to the work load and the change in the work methods from time to time. The year-wise details of the employees (permanent and temporary both in open line and construction) working in the Railways during the last three years are as under:

1990-91	16,54,985
1991-92	16,57,232
1992-93	16,52,336

[English]

**Degraded Forests lands to Private
Parties**

1330. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: