

| 1  | 2  | 3                    | 4                 |
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| 6. | Bhimadolu-Nidadavolu-<br>Rajahmundry and<br>Samalkot-Annavaram-<br>Anakapalli (Part of<br>Vijayawada-<br>Vishakhapatnam) | 179 South<br>Central | Andhra<br>Pradesh |
| 7. | Jamtara-Jhajha-Jamui<br>(Part of Sitarampur-<br>Mughalsarai)   | 146 Eastern          | Bihar             |

(b) In the State of Kerala the electrification work is in progress on section Walayar-Ernakulam including Cochin Harbour Terminus. The section Walayar-Shoranur is likely to be electrified by 31.03.1997 and it is planned to complete electrification of the entire section by 31.03.1998 provided that adequate funds are made available in time.

#### Rail Link in Andhra Pradesh

3123. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether surveys have been conducted to establish a rail-link between Pathancheru-Sangareddi-Medak-Siddipet towns in the Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of surveys conducted so far;

(c) whether in a survey conducted recently, it has been decided to connect these towns and Andhra Pradesh by the rail; and

(d) if so, the full details thereof and the time expected to be taken for finalisation of the project work as well as completion of the job?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An updating of survey for a new broad gauge line from Patancheru to Akanapet via Sangareddi and Medak was conducted by South Central Railway in 1994. The results of the survey have revealed the cost of the 102 kms. long line as Rs. 130.74 crores and the project has been found to be unremunerative. Two surveys have so far been conducted for the suggested line, i.e. in 1981 and 1994.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Autonomy to States

3124. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are demands from some States of the country for giving more autonomy to them;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to follow a uniform policy in this regard in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). The Minimum Programme of the Government refers to a new articulation of 'States rights' and seeks to strengthen the forces of political federalism with a strong Centre, strong States and viable local bodies. The document states that the Government will advance the principles of political, administrative and economic federalism and effect devolution of powers and decentralisation of authority. For this purpose, the Government intends to pursue a two-track policy. On the first track, the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission on which there is already a broad consensus, will be implemented through legislation and administrative action as appropriate. On the second track, the Government proposes to appoint a High Level Committee to review and update the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission and also to look into the vital question of devolution of financial powers from the Central Government to the State Governments.

[Translation]

#### Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958

3125. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the States where Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act is in force;

(b) since when this Act came into force first time. State-wise;

(c) the reasons for keeping the same in force;

(d) whether continuation of this Act has been reviewed from time to time; and

(e) if so, when such a review had been last made. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The Armed forces (Special Powers) Act is presently promulgated in the following States :

1. Assam
2. Nagaland
3. Manipur
4. Mizoram
5. Meghalaya
6. Arunachal Pradesh
7. Tripura
8. Punjab
9. Chandigarh UT
10. Jammu and Kashmir