

Giridih-Ranchi Railway Line

1926. SHRI BHUVNESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey has been conducted to connect Giridih to Hazaribagh and Hazaribagh to Ranchi with railway lines;

(b) if so, the reasons for not starting the said project so far; and

(c) when it is proposed to be implemented?

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

(b) As the project is unremunerative, it has not been approved by the Planning Commission.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Additional Train Services on Dombivali-Diva-Vasai Section

1927. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start additional train services on Dombivali-Diva-Vasai section;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to lack of infrastructure facilities.

Grounding of Aircraft

1928. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number and type of aircraft that are operational in domestic flight under the Indian Airlines;

(b) the number of aircraft of the Indian Airlines that have been grounded;

(c) whether a large number of grounded aircraft have affected domestic flight; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government are taking to reduce grounding of aircraft and to make travel easy?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) At present, Indian Airlines is operating 7 Airbus A-300, 12 Airbus A-320 and 19 Boeing 737 aircraft daily in its scheduled services.

(b) 3 Airbus A-300, 6 Airbus A-320 and 5 Boeing 737 aircraft of Indian Airlines are presently on ground for routine maintenance. One Airbus A-300 is on ground for mandatory modifications.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) 3 more Airbus A-320 will be reinducted into scheduled services in the forthcoming winter schedule.

Shortage of Rolling Stock

1929. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are facing shortage of electric and diesel locomotives, passenger coaches and wagons currently;

(b) if so, the existing position thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to meet the requirements in view of resources crunch?

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

(b) The rolling stock availability does not permit of deviation from the established pattern of traffic stream and/or lifting of additional traffic of different commodities beyond the target fixed, by the capacity that can be generated by the present holding of rolling stock. While a precise quantification is difficult, but there is a gap of 3 to 5 per cent in the demand for rail transport and its availability. The shortage is acutely felt in the busy period between November and March.

Shortage of coaches compels the Railways to keep in services sizeable fleet of overaged coaches.

(c) The programme for acquisition of locomotives, coaches and wagons would be stepped up in the coming years to the extent the allocation of funds and availability of foreign exchange and the indigenous production capacity would allow.

Detection of Illegal Electricity connections in Delhi

1930. SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM : Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of illegal electricity connections detected in Delhi during January to June, 1991 and particularly in East Delhi;

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken against the persons involved; and

(c) the steps the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking propose to take to check theft of power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) Out of 494 cases of power theft detected by DESU during January to June, 1991, 189 cases pertained to East Delhi. 160 FIRs have

been lodged with the police against the persons involved in the power theft for prosecution, out of which 55 pertain to East Delhi. Theft of power has been made a cognizable offence under the Indian Electricity Act, 1910. DESU has intensified its drive against the power theft and other violations relating to use of electricity.

[Translation]

Reduction in number of halts of Long Distance Trains

1931. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to reduce the number of halts of long distance trains running from Indore to Delhi, Bombay, Howrah, Cochin and Bilaspur and convert these trains into superfast; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

New Train between Indore and New Delhi

1932. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to run a new train between Indore and New Delhi via Nagda and Kota;

(b) whether there is any proposal to run a sleeping-car train between Indore and Lucknow; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.