

[*Translation*]

Modernisation of Bareilly-Junction

2958. SHRISANTOSHKUMARGANGWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to modernise Bareilly Junction of Northern Railway in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Railway Lines in Bihar

2959. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of railway lines constructed in Bihar during Seventh Plan; and

(b) the length of railway lines electrified in the State so far and the names of the railway lines proposed to be electrified in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) 32.7 kms between Tupkadih and Talgaria.

(b) 989 Kms have been electrified so far. Following railway electrification schemes falling in Bihar have already been approved for execution;

1. Sonnagar-Patratu

2. Chittranjan-Jhajha (As part of Sitarampur-Jhajha)

3. Gomia-Patratu

4. Bokaro-Pundag; Muri-Orga & Rapra-Kiriburu (As part of Bokaro-Kiriburu).

Conversion of Railway Lines in Bihar

2960. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert any railway line into broad gauge in Bihar during 1991; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Chhapra-Aunrihar gauge conversion work has already been started. It is targeted for completion in 1993-94.

[*English*]

Open Cast Mining

2961. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether open cast mining poses a lot of hazards; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to rehabilitate the affected persons?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOURA): (a) and (b). Opencast mining is relatively much safer compared to underground mining operations. The opencast mining does cause environmental pollution arising from land degradation, air and water pollution and also displacement of people living in the mining block. Adequate steps are being taken for controlling pollution of air

and water. Work on reclamation of land has also been undertaken depending upon the local conditions. Before any opencast project is sanctioned, an Environmental Management Plan is prepared and clearance is obtained from Ministry of Environment. This plan includes provision towards rehabilitation of affected persons.

A liberal rehabilitation package for land losers has been adopted by the coal companies. This package includes provision for vocational training, alternative house site, shifting allowance, cash compensation for land etc. In addition the package also provides for preference in employment to the extent new employment opportunities get created in the project in unskilled and semi-skilled categories.

Steps against Subsidence in Coal Area

2962. DR. SUDHIR RAY:
DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:
SHRI HARADHAN ROY:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of cases of subsidence have come to light in different coal belt areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof, statewise and subsidiary-wise;

(c) whether efforts are being made to rehabilitate such persons; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, state-wise and subsidiary-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMA-GOUDA): (a) to (d). The main problem of subsidence resulting from coal mining operations exists mainly in the Raniganj Coalfield of Eastern Coalfields Ltd., and to some

extent in the Jharia Coalfield of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd., due to unscientific exploitation of coal during prenationalisation days.

The following cases of subsidence have been reported in the recent time from the command areas of E C L and B C C L lying in the State of West Bengal and Bihar.

WEST BENGAL

- (i) on 4/3/90, subsidence occurred over a goaved out panel in Karnani Nimcha unit of Amritnagar Colliery. There was no damage to any surface structure and also no report of any casualty;
- (ii) On 5.7.90 subsidence occurred in Dhandadih village near Parasea 6 & 7 inclines causing cracks in 15 houses in the village. The management got these repaired;
- (iii) In July '90, pot-holing occurred at 3 places in Muchipara of Egra village near Mahabir Colliery. No damage to any building but 30 families have claimed that their land have become uncultivable due to loss of water on account of subsidence cracks;
- (iv) A 8 m. deep pot hole occurred near a bustee in Jemihari Khas Colliery of Satgram area in April, '91. No person was affected;
- (v) Due to subsidence in April '91 in Bahula Colliery of Kenda area, 30 temporary houses were damaged. 32 of the 54 persons affected have since been rehabilitated in a nearby