

prices are statutorily fixed from year to year for basic varieties. In respect of oilseeds, minimum support prices have not been fixed. In the case of commodities like tobacco, lac and cardamom, minimum export prices for these commodities have been fixed with a view to ensuring economic prices for them. In respect of other agricultural commodities like coconut, arecanut, cashewnut, spices, etc., it is not proposed at present to apply this policy of price support.

Siliguri-Jogighopa Line

28. { Shri Basumatari:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri Swell:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether any suggestions have been made to take up the proposed broad gauge line from Siliguri Jogighopa through Cooch-Behar, Tufanganj, Baxirhat, Basbari, Khoksaghat, Hilsipara, Salkucha, Chapar and Kachu Dola, or through any other alternative routes; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For technical reasons, it has been decided that the alignment of the proposed B.G. line between Siliguri and Jogighopa should be as follows:

- (i) from Siliguri to Cooch-Behar via Domohani and Falakata;
- (ii) from Cooch-Behar turn north to Alipurduar;
- (iii) between Alipurduar and Bongaigaon along side the existing M.G. alignment, to the south of it; and
- (iv) then turn south to Jogighopa.

This alignment will not only be cheaper but will also be more stable

than other alignments via the towns mentioned and can be constructed earlier.

Dialling System of Telephone

29. { Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Warior:
Shri M. N. Swamy:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Himatsingka:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Balgovind Verma:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scheme for connecting all the State capitals with New Delhi and other important cities by the subscriber dialling system of telephone by the end of the Fourth Plan;

(b) whether as a first step such link has already been established between Delhi and Agra and Lucknow and Kanpur; and

(c) whether work in relation to the establishment of such a link between any other cities is in hand at present?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) There is a scheme for connecting some of the State Capitals with New Delhi and other important cities by the Subscriber Dialling System during the Third Plan. Proposals for connecting up similarly the other State Capitals will be taken up during the Fourth Plan.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

Railway Training School at Chandausi

30. Shri Yashpal Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the training courses for Railway