

Third Track Between Bandel and Bhadreswar

1349. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for a third track between Bendel and Bhadreswar of Eastern Railways ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken so far by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) to (c). A survey for augmentation of line capacity between Sheoraphuli and Bandel section including Tarakeswar Branch has been taken up. Engineering field survey has been completed and recess work is in progress. A decision on the proposal will be taken after the survey report has been received, and the same examined subject to availability of funds.

Stipend of Interns in Central Medical Colleges

1350. SHRI B.V. DESAI :

SHRI KRISHAN PRATAP SINGH :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government has agreed for the increase of the stipend of the interns in the Central Government Medical Colleges to Rs. 750 per month from January, 1985 ;

(b) if, so whether any agreement in this regard for future has also been reached with the authorities concerned ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) whether amount of intership in all the States is equal, and if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (d). Yes. The Government of

India have increased the stipend amount to Rs. 750 per month with effect from 1st January, 1985 in respect of interns in the Central Institutions/Hospitals (including Statutory/autonomous bodies wholly financed by the Central Government). The Government have further decided to set up a Committee to review the stipend amount every two years. The amount of intership varies from State to State and it is for the State Governments to take a decision in this matter.

Demands made by Their Dam Worker Union

1351. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has received a representation dated 8 February, 1985 addressed to the Prime Minister by Their Dam Workers Union, Pathankot ;

(b) if so, what are their demands ; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to settle the demands ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c) The representation in question has not been received, Sir.

Deteriorating Standard of English

1352. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the standard of English is declining ; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are considering to take to popularise this language in the country and to improve its standard ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K.C. PANT) : (a) and (b). No comparative studies are available to support the contention that standards of English are declining, although there is a general feeling that such a deterioration has taken place.