

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT
(SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A scheme for construction of lock at Mundali weir across the river Mahanadi, was sanctioned on 17.3.71, as a Centrally sponsored scheme. The entire loan assistance of Rs. 50.18 lakhs was released to the State Government before March, 1979. No Central assistance was, however, given to the State Government during the last three years.

Extension of Mahanagri/Ganga-Kaveri
Express to Patna

2689. SHRI C.P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to extend Mahanagri Express or Ganga-Kaveri Express upto Patna as people of Patna do not have any suitable rail link to South; and

(b) if so, when this rail link would be provided ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Streamlining of Reservation Office in
Andhra Pradesh

2690. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) measures being taken to simplify and reduce delays at Railway Reservation Offices; and

(b) whether any monitoring of the administration of stations and reservation facilities is being done directly by Rail Bhawan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) The

following measures have been taken to bring about simplification and reduce delays at Reservation offices:—

- (i) reduction in the period of advance reservations from 120 days to 90 days;
 - (ii) imposing suitable limits on the waiting lists;
 - (iii) introduction of extended working hours;
 - (iv) opening of city booking-cum-reservation offices in interior parts of major cities;
 - (v) progressive employment of electronic aids and gadgets;
 - (vi) A new Reservation Complex has been opened in Secunderabad from 17.10.1985 with a facility for issue of token numbers. Passengers seeking reservations submit their requisition forms at earmarked counters where they are handed over the perforated portion of the requisition with indication of the token number and counter at which they would be served. The token number are flashed in turn at the concerned counters through digital display. During the intervening period, the customers are free to attend to other business or be seated in chairs provided; and
 - (vii) computerisation of reservation work in Delhi to begin with and to be extended to other metropolitan cities in phases, etc.
- (b) No, Sir.

New trains from Orissa to Secunderabad

2691. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the need to introduce a new train to supplement the Konark Express, which runs from Orissa to Secunderabad;