

250 per tree. The rates of premium vary between Rs. 90 to Rs.500 per hectare dependent on the age of plantation for immature plantation. In the case of mature plantation it is Rs. 473 per hectare for a period of 3 years.

As on date Insurance cover has been provided for 1202 hectares of rubber plantation (Immature plantation 1182 ha. plus Mature plantation 20 Hectare).

Doubling of Kayankulam-Trivandrum Railway Line

1781. SHRIVAKKOMPURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a demand for the doubling of the railway line between Kayankulam and Trivandrum;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State Government of Kerala, some voluntary organisations and individuals have made the request.

(c) The need for doubling between Kayankulam and Trivandrum (106 km) has been accepted. As the first phase, doubling between Kayankulam and Quilon (41 km) has been approved in the Railway Budget for 1989-90. The balance portion between Quilon and Trivandrum will be considered for being taken up after adequate progress has been made on phase-I.

Railway Stations without Platforms

1783. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the

Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of railway stations in the country; and

(b) how many of them are without platforms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). There are over 8000 regular/flag/halt stations on the Indian Railways. No railway station handling passenger traffic is without a platform.

Introduction of Bobcard

1784. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheduled bank in Delhi has introduced a bank card named as Bob-card in June, 1989;

(b) if so, the name of the bank and details of the scheme;

(c) whether the scheme has already been introduced at other stations;

(d) whether the system has been working satisfactorily; and

(e) if so, whether the Reserve Bank of India would allow more scheduled banks to introduce such a scheme and if so, the names of such banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Allahabad Bank in association with Bank of Baroda had launched a credit card scheme known as BOBCARD-ALLAHABAD BANK in June, 1989 in Delhi. The scheme has been extended to nine other stations.