

[Translation]

**'Palace on Wheels' Train Service**

2246 SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-  
GAVA  
SHRI Y S RAJASEKHAR  
REDDY

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the coaches of the tourist train 'Palace on Wheels' are not likely to remain rail-worthy after 1990,

(b) if so, the plans of Government for continuing this train service after 1990,

(c) whether there is a proposal to replace the existing coaches by new ones or to make those serviceable, and

(d) if so, the details in this regard and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The existing coaches will be made fit to run upto 1990-91

(c) and (d) There is a proposal to replace the existing coaches by new ones by October, 1991 at an estimated cost of Rs 6.24 Crores

**Overbridges near Sitamarhi and Pupri Railway Stations in Bihar**

2247 SHRI HUKMIDEO NARAYAN YADAV Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have received any representations for the construction of an overbridge on railway crossing near Sitamarhi and Pupri stations in Bihar, and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Railways can take action in the matter, only after firm proposals for the works are sponsored by the State Government, duly consenting to bear the cost as per rules.

**Compensation to Persons Displaced due to Karnal Refinery**

2248 SHRI KAPIL DEV SHASTRI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state

(a) the extent of land (in acres) acquired for setting up of Karnal refinery and the number of farmers affected thereby;

(b) whether compensation has been paid to those farmers whose land have been acquired, and

(c) whether the family members of the said farmers will be given priority in giving jobs in this refinery?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY). (a) and (b). 2143 acres of land including 833 acres of private land has been acquired for the proposed refinery. 163 agriculturist will be affected as a result of acquiring the private land. A compensation of Rs. 2.50 crores has been deposited with the concerned Land Acquisition Collector for payment to the land holders, and the same has been disbursed by the State Government

(c) Even though there would be no commitment for providing employment to the family members of affected farmers, Indian Oil Corporation would be providing

rehabilitation assistance to the affected persons in accordance with the existing Government instructions.

**Air Conditioned Bogle for Vikramshila Express**

2249. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to attach an airconditioned bogie to 'Vikramshila Express' which runs between Delhi and Bhagalpur; and

(b) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Non-availability of maintenance facilities at Bhagalpur and shortage of Air-conditioned coaches.

[English]

**Electrification of Madras-New Delhi Railway Line**

2250. SHRI E.S.M. PAKEER MOHAMED: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the programme chalked out for electrification of Madras-New Delhi railway line;

(b) whether the work is behind schedule;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken for expeditious completion of the work; and

(e) when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Madras-New Delhi trunk route has been electrified upto Itarsi from Delhi end and upto Nagpur from Madras end. Electrification works on the remaining Itarsi-Nagpur section are in an advanced stage of completion.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A new technology Optic Fibre communication system for block working which is being installed for the first time on the Railways in the Itarsi-Nagpur section is taking more time than anticipated.

(d) Necessary measures have been identified and are being carried out.

(e) During 1990-91.

**Technology Mission in Punjab**

2251. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any technology mission is functioning in Punjab to provide technical know-how to industrial establishments, particularly to medium and small scale units and other centres of developmental activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the benefits provided by such a technology mission to the above units/centres;

(c) if not, whether Government have any plan to establish such a technology mission in Punjab; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.