

(a) whether the Government have constituted a Committee to recommend the creation of new railway zones and divisions in the country;

(b) if so, when the Committee was constituted;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the places recommended by the Committee for the creation of new railway zones/divisions: and

(e) the details of recommendations accepted by the Government and the names of new zones/divisions proposed be created along with names of their headquarters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) to (d). The Railway Reforms Committee (RRC) was set up in May, 1981 to undertake a comprehensive review of the working of the Indian Railways. In one of its reports, namely "Railway Regrouping", submitted in July 1984, the RRC recommended creation of (i) four new zones with headquarters at Jabalpur, Ajmer, Allahabad and Bangalore; and (ii) ten new divisions with headquarters at Ambala, Bhopal, Malda, Ahmedabad, Rourkela, Singrauli, Ghaziabad, Guntur, Chittorgarh and Usalapur.

(e) The Government have already taken up for implementation the recommendations regarding creation of new divisions at Ambala, Bhopal, Malda, Sambaipur (in lieu of Rourkela) and Nanded (in lieu of Guntur). Prevailing financial constraints have, however, precluded the possibility of going in for additional zones or divisions for the present.

#### **Railway Bridge at Varkala**

927. SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal to the Union Gov-

ernment after completing all formalities, for construction of railway overbridge at Varkala on Ernakulam - Trivandrum via Kottayam railway line.

(b) if so, whether the bridge has been approved and construction work of the bridge commenced; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) The State Government of Kerala has sponsored the proposal but has not complied with the requisite formalities.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### **Conversion of Allahabad City to Allahabad Junction Line**

928. SHRIMATI SAROJ DEBEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the conversion of metral gauge railway section between Allahabad city and Allahabad Junction, into broad gauge; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This is being done as a part of Allahabad-Varanasi gauge conversion project on which work is in progress.

[*English*]

#### **Change in Name of Gommo Junction**

929. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to