

*[English]***Panvel-Karjat Rail Link**

283. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the work pertaining to land acquisition for construction of panvel-Karjat Rail Link on the Bombay-Pune Railway Line in Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government have completed other necessary requirements;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the work is likely to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Field data for land acquisition in connection with the construction of Panvel-Karjat new rail line has been collected. The plans have been prepared and letters sent to Collector for publication in the relevant section of the Government Gazette. An amount of Rs. 1.00 crore has already been deposited with the state Government in March, 1994

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Land acquisition formalities are likely to be completed by 31.12.95. the work would then be taken up in consultation with Planning Commission and progressed as per availability of resources in the coming years.

*[Translation]***New Railway Stations**

284. SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of the 26 proposals for the construction of new railway stations under the South Eastern Railway only seven proposals have been considered by the Government during 1993-94;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not taking any decision in respect of majority of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (c) Out of 26 proposals received during the year 1993-94, 8 halt stations were sanctioned during 1993-94. Out of these, three halt stations viz. Khairee, Shyamacharanpur and Kathajori have been commissioned during 1993-94 and another halt station i.e. Kadai has been commissioned during 1994-95. The construction work for remaining four halt stations viz. Gwalipur, Mangoli Chowdwar, Chataud and sudpara is in progress. Two more halt stations viz. Nimakana and Sarthili have been sanctioned during 1994-95, out of which one i.e. Nimakana has since been commissioned. Proposals for remaining 16 halt stations have not been found justified on Commercial and Operational grounds as per prescribed norms.

*[English]***Road Over-bridges in Gujarat**

285. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of road over-bridges under construction in Gujarat with World bank assistance;

(b) the progress made in this regard;

(c) the steps taken to expedite the construction of those bridges; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Nil.

(b) (to) (d) Do not arise.

*[Translation]***Agricultural Development Schemes**

286. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra have sent some schemes of agricultural development for approval to the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (c). No new Schemes have been received from Government of Maharashtra for approval in 1994-95. A proposal for taking up Agricultural development Project with World Bank assistance has been received from the Government of Maharashtra. The world Bank identification Mission has visited Maharashtra in February, 1994 and suggested to the State Government to take up detailed studies and prepare an agricultural Strategy paper and matrix. The state Government has also been requested to make provision of matching funds under their State Budget.

Accidents At level Crossings

287. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA):

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

KUMARI UMA BHARTI:

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the trains accidents occurred at railway level crossings during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of persons killed/injured in those accidents;

(c) the compensation paid to the victims of such accidents so far and the number of cases still lying pending.

(d) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to check such accidents; and

(e) if so; the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) The number of accidents at level crossings and persons killed and injured in them was as follows:

Year	No. of Accidents	No. of Persons:	
		Killed	Injured
1991-92	47	98	316
1992-93	51	118	192
1993-94	66	168	306

(c) Rs. 11,88,955 has been paid as compensation to the victims of train accidents at level crossings during the last 3 years. The number of cases pending are 67.

(d) and (e). Safety measures taken to avoid accidents are reviewed from time to time and new measures are introduced on the basis of the recommendations of the accident inquiry committees. Publicity through media is undertaken at frequent intervals targetted at road-users, advising them of the precautions they should take while negotiating level crossings.

Safety drives are launched to educate road users including issue of pamphlets. Ambush checks are also undertaken to penalise and educate road users.

Cooperation of the state Government is solicited to discipline the road-users in observing provisions of the Motor Vehicle Act while crossing railway crossings.

Depending upon the density of traffic and the state Governments' agreeing to share the cost, the unmanned level crossings are converted into manned ones. During 1994-95, a sum of Rupees 25 crores was provided for the conversion of unmanned crossings into manned level crossings.

[English]

Conference of Security Officers

288. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference was organised by the Government in December, 1994 for taking effective steps to curb crimes on moving trains and at railway stations;

(b) if so, the details of the conference including the outcome;

(c) whether any special suggestion came out for dealing firmly with chain pullings;

(d) the number of crimes committed in trains during 1994; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 14.12.94, a Conference was held on Northern Railway Hqrs. Baroda House, New Delhi which was attended by railway officers and Government Railway Police Chiefs of States over Northern Railway.

Another Conference was held on 16.12.94 at Fairlie Place, Eastern Railway, Calcutta which was attended by Railway Officers and State Railway Police Officers of West Bengal.

Crime situation on the Railways was discussed in these meetings with a view to curb crime on the Railways.

(c) The problem of Alarm Chain Pulling was one of the items discussed in the Conference held on 14.12.94 at New Delhi. It was stressed upon the State Police Authorities to take stringent steps against the offenders.

(d) As per data collected from Government Railway Police, the number of crimes committed in trains over Indian Railways during 1994 are as follows:—

Murder — 51

Dacoity — 179

Robbery — 267

Theft of passengers belongings— 7884

(e) According to the provisions of the Constitution, Policing being a State subject, maintenance of law and order and control of crime in running trains and in Railway premises other than theft of railway property and goods entrusted for carriage are the responsibilities of the State Governments. GRP in each State is entrusted with the security of passengers and their belongings and is also responsible for all law and order matters on railway premises and running trains. The Government Railway Police undertakes escorting of passenger trains, patrolling of railway premises, collection of crime intelligence, surveillance over criminals and known bad characters besides registration, investigation and prosecution of cases reported to them. The Railways on their part keep liaison with GRP and give all assistance to GRP in controlling crime. Regular coordination meetings are held between railway officials and State Police authorities and the GRP in which matters relating to law and order and crime are discussed.

Reservation quota in Rajdhani Express

289. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand to increase the coaches and reservation quota in each class in Rajdhani Express running between New Delhi to Bombay; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to meet the above demand?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) 2951/2952 New Delhi-Bombay Central Rajdhani Express and 2953/2954 Hazrat Nizamuddin-Bombay Central August Kranti Rajdhani