

number of sets are lying unutilised in various railway yards in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the orders placed with these firms alongwith the cost involved therein;

(c) whether both the MMTC and Nagaland Forest Cooperatives are commission agents for the supply of sleepers and MMTC had been blacklisted by the Railways sometime in 1993; and

(d) if so, the reasons which weighed with the Government to place orders on a black listed firm?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Orders have been placed for supply of wooden sleepers on MMTC (a Corporation of Central Government) and MARCOFED, Dimapur, Nagaland (a Corporation of Government of Nagaland), as under :

Name of Corporation	Quantity in cums.	Contract value
MMTC, New Delhi	43,000	Rs. 81.28 crores
MARCOFED, Dimapur, Nagaland	9,000	Rs. 16.61 crores
	52,000	Rs. 97.89 crores

It is not correct that 2000 sets are awaiting despatch from various factories.

(c) Both the Corporations M/s MMTC and MARCOFED, Nagaland are Public Sector Undertakings owned by Central Government and Nagaland Government respectively. MMTC was not blacklisted by Railways in 1993.

(d) Does not arise.

#### New Railway Projects in Orissa

1344. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the new railway projects submitted by the Government of Orissa during the last three years;

(b) whether some of the proposals have been found unremunerative; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) Four proposals for new lines have been received from the Orissa Government during the last three years. The position of these is as under :

1. Haridaspur - Paradeep : The work has been sanctioned.
2. Jeypore - Malkangiri - Kottamatta : A survey has been taken up. Further consideration of the project will be possible once the survey report becomes available.

3. Talchar - Bimlagarh : A survey has been taken up. Further consideration of the project will be possible once the survey report becomes available.

4. Jharsuguda - Bishrampur via Sundergarh : This project could not be considered due to resource crunch.

#### Renovation of Garifa Railway Station

1345. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount sanctioned for renovation, lighting, seating arrangements, restoration of platforms, staircase, platform shed etc. for Garifa Railway Station under Howrah Division of Eastern Railway during the last three years;

(b) whether passenger amenities are almost nil in this station; and

(c) if so, the steps to be taken to provide above mentioned amenities to this station?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) Augmentation/provision of additional amenities is a continuous process. Garifa railway station is provided with amenities commensurate with the volume of passenger traffic. Recently works of provision of platform shed and foot-over-bridge have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 11.55 lakh. Besides, for lighting and provision of fans on the platform a work has also been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 34,700/-

#### Funds for Construction of Roads in Karnataka

1346. SHRI VIJAY SANKESHWAR : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation of funds made to Karnataka for the construction of roads during the last three years; and

(b) the number of villages in Karnataka connected/ to be connected with roads?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Unauthorised Hawkers

1347. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the movement of huge local passengers/office goers using the ferry services are obstructing by the unauthorised hawkers at platforms No. 2 to 7 of Howrah railway station and the newly set up mini market;