(b) to (d). There is no proposal to transfer the mines in Bihar referred to from Eastern Coalfields Limited to Bharat Coking Coal Limited; these mines produce non coking coal. Victoria West and Begunia are coking coal mines which are located in West Bengal, there is no proposal to transfer them from Bharat Coking Coal Limited to Eastern Coalfields Limited.

[Translation]

Services of Railway Porters

7852. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to provide uniforms to licensed railway porters;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to classify their status as was done earlier or declare them Class IV employees;
 - (c) if so, when; and
 - (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The licensed porters are supplied two sets of uniforms every year, the cost of which is to be met from the licence fee collected from them. If requested by them they are permitted to arrange uniforms on their own as per prescribed pattern and quality.

(b) to (d). The licensed porters were never given nor there is any proposal to give them the status of Class IV railway employees because they are licencees and earn their livelihood by carrying passengers' luggage on charging porterage directly form the passengers.

Conversion of Purva Khera Halt into a Flag Station

7853. DR. S.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there was a proposal to convert Purva Khera Halt on Chandoli-Bareilly branch line of Northern Railway into a flag station;
- (b) if so, whether it has since been implemented; and
 - (c) if not, the resoans therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c). The proposal for conversion of Purva Khera halt into a flag station has been examined but not found financially justified.

[English]

Payment of Claims for Work at Klul Station

7854. SHRI L.V. SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether handling contract for parcel good as Kiul Junction was awarded to Licensed Porters' Shramik Sahyog Samiti Ltd. run since 1967:
- (b) whether the claims/dues for handling such contract from November, 1985 to January, 1987 was submitted by the Samiti to Divisional Office, Dinapur for payment; and
- (c) if so, the reasons for non-payment of above claims so far?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) As the Samiti had not submitted labour payment certificate and work done vouchers duly countersigned by the competent authority and as the bills were time barred, the same were returned to the Samiti unpaid.

[Translation]

Setting up of New Industries In Gujarat

- 7855. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSLTRIES be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Union Government have received any proposals for setting up new industries in Gujarat in the joint sector in collaboration with Gujarat Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and whether these proposals have been cleared by Union Government: and
- (c) the number of persons likely to get employment in these industries?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c). During the years 1987 to 1990 (upto 30.4.90), only one Industrial Licence application for joint sector venture in Gujarat was received. This proposal

was approved and the Letter of Intent granted on 21.12.88 to Bonded Fabrics in Bharuch (Gujarat) generating an additional employment of about 100.

Joint Ventures with Japan, France and Britain

7856. SHRI HARI SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have taken steps to set up joint ventures with Japan, France and Britain; and
- (b) if so, the fields in which the joint ventures have been set up with these countries, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). Steps for setting up joint ventures are taken by entrepreneurs. Government grant approvals for such collaborations between foreign companies and Indian enterprises after due examination.

A statement indicating the fields in which approvals have been granted for foreign collaboration involving financial participation by Japan, France and Britain with Indian enterprises during the last three years, is given below.