(b) whether there is also any proposal for laying new railway lines connecting the important Pilgrim Centres like Sabarimala and Achencoil in Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal at present, however, a Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for a new BG rail line between Kayankulam and Trivandrum via Kottarakara and Nedumangad was carried out in 1986-87. The project was not found to be financially viable.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Reservation Quota of Kollorkon and Punalur, Kerala

1283. SHRI SURESH KODIKKUNNIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the existing quota of berths at Kollorkon and Punalur stations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). The following fresh quotas have been provided at Punalur and Kottarakara stations (there is no station as Kollorkon) with effect from 10.03.1990:—

Station	Train No.	No. of Berths
1	2	3
Punalur	2625 Trivandrum—New Delhi Express	2 II Class
Kottarakara	2625 Trivandrum—New Delhi Express	2 II Class
	1082 Kanniyakumari—Bombay V.T. Express	2 II Class
	2604 Trivandrum—Rajkot Weekly Express	2 II Class

Royalty to Assam Government on Crude Oil

1284. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any demand from Assam Government for enhancement in the rate of royalty on production of crude oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any decision has been

taken in the matter; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURU-PADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Government of Assam has, inter-alia, demanded an increase in the rate of royalty on crude oil from Rs. 192/- to Rs. 405/- per tonne. The revision of royalty on crude oil is under review in consultation with the State Government. In the meanwhile, an