

(c) when it will be handed over to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). It has not been possible to vacate the Travancore House for want of a suitable alternative accommodation for the present occupant, viz., the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission. However, the Commission has since been allotted alternative accommodation in the Bikaner House Annexe and Kotah House Annexe and it proposes to shift shortly to the new premises as soon as these are ready for occupation.

Vacancies of Medical Officers in South Eastern Coalfields

4150. SHRI RAVI NARAYAN PANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Medical Officers including Medical Superintendents in service in South Eastern Coalfields Limited at present and the number of existing vacancies; and

(b) the steps taken to fill up these vacancies to provide proper medical care to the workers?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The number of Medical Officers including Medical Superintendents working at present in South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. is 257 and the number of vacant posts is 204.

(b) Coal India Ltd., have taken necessary steps to fill up vacant posts. Offers have already been issued to fill up 40 posts. Interviews have been held on 22.3.1990 to fill up 26 posts and further interviews are scheduled to be held shortly. On the completion of these interviews, Coal India Ltd., would issue further advertisements, if necessary.

Trichur-Guruvayoor Railway Line

4151. SHRI P.A. ANTONY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land for the propose Trichur-Guruvayoor railway line has been acquired;

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(c) whether compensation has been given to all those whose land has been acquired for this line?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir. Out of 49.12 hectares of land, 42.07 hectares of land has been taken as advance possession.

(b) The State Government's Revenue Department is delaying the acquisition of land and they are being vigorously pursued to speed up the land acquisition proceedings.

(c) The compensation for the land owners has been deposited with the State Government for payment to the parties whose land has been taken over by the Railways.

[Translation]

Shifting of Eastern Railway Zonal Headquarters

4152. SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to shift the zonal office of Eastern Railway from Calcutta to Patna or in any other city of Bihar;

(b) if so, by what time; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The location of the Headquarters of Zonal Railway is decided on operational and administrative considerations and not on the basis of territorial jurisdiction of States. Moreover, the shifting of a well established office will also cause severe dislocation to the family set up of a large number of staff. Based on these considerations, it is not considered feasible to shift the Eastern Railway Headquarters from Calcutta.

[English]

Railway lines in Rajasthan

4153. SHRI HEMENDRA SINGH BANERA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take up construction of new railway lines in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, when and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Following new railway lines are under construction in Rajasthan.

1. Kota-Chittaurgarh-Neemuch, 222 km, out of which 206 km is in Rajasthan, has been approved at a cost of Rs. 160 crores. Kota-Chittaurgarh, 166 km, has since been opened to traffic and balance is expected to be opened during this year.
2. Mathura Alwar, 120 km, out of which 90 km is in Rajasthan, has been approved at a cost of Rs. 69.43 crores.

Bridge at Thiruppur (S.R.)

4154. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for construction of an overbridge at Thiruppur on Southern Railway; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The State Government (Tamil Nadu Urban Development Project) has recently forwarded to the Railway proposal for construction of road-overbridge near Thiruppur yard.

(b) The work will be taken up for execution after the plans and estimate are finalised and the estimated cost is deposited by the State Government.

[Translation]

Doubling of Kiul-Bhagalpur line

4155. SHRI DHANRAJ SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work for doubling the railway line between Kiul-Monghyr to Bhagalpur in Bihar had been started but was suspended later on;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

(c) whether this work is likely to be resumed shortly; and

(d) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d). The work of patch doubling between Kiul and Bhagalpur had been approved in 1981-82 and taken up soon after. There had been no suspension of this work, and as such, there is no question of its resumption. There is, however, no proposal to double Jamalpur-Monghyr branch line.