

the Forest Conservation Act for providing Siwani Pench (Madhya Pradesh) 132 KV transmission line through protected forest areas of both these States and the time by which approval is likely to be accorded to it ?

**THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) :**

(a) In order to simplify procedures and to avoid delays in obtaining a clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, revised guidelines have been issued in December, 1984.

(b) The proposal was received by Government in October, 1984. The State Government has been asked to furnish a proper map showing the complete forest boundary. The proposal would be considered further on receipt of the information

(c) The proposal for the 132 KV transmission line in Maharashtra was received in December, 1984. The proposal for clearance of forest area for the 132 KV Pench-Seoni line in Madhya Pradesh was received in November, 1984. The proposals are expected to be approved shortly.

[English]

**Hydel Project at Barak Water Fall in Manipur**

**2623. PROF. MEIJINLUNG KAMSON:** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the erstwhile British Government of India made a survey of the Barak Waterfall in Tamenglong area of Manipur in the pre-World War-II period for setting up a hydel project;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the North Eastern Council has any proposal to take up a hydel project at the Barak water fall ; and

(d) if so, the progress so far made ?

**THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) :**

(a) to (d). No record of the pre-World War II survey is available. However, North

Eastern Council is financing investigation of a hydel project site on Barak river in the Tamenglong area. The investigation scheme was sanctioned in March, 1984 and the time frame for its completion is about three years.

**Number of Construction Offices opened by Railways**

**2624. SHRI RADHA KANTA DIGAL :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Construction Offices of Railways opened so far in the country;

(b) whether Government of Orissa have requested his Ministry to open a Construction Office in Orissa to look after the construction work of the Railway Projects under implementation in that State; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) :** (a) A Construction Unit, with at least one Chief Engineer (Construction) is working on all the Zonal Railways, in addition to the Construction Units pertaining to Railway Electrification, Metro Railway, Calcutta and the Production Unit at Patiala.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The question of setting up new Construction Offices for Officers/Inspectors etc. engaged on construction projects is examined and processed, when considered justified, on the basis of work load, depending on the availability of funds.

**Introduction of a superfast train between Waltair and New Delhi via Raipur**

**2625. SHRI S.M. BHATTAM :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal for introduction of a superfast train between Waltair and New Delhi via Raipur; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?