

[English]

Dieselisation of the train running between Barmer and Jodhpur

2651. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in 1984 a new train was started from Barmer to Agra Fort Via Jodhpur ;

(b) whether the said train is hauled by a diesel engine between Jodhpur and Agra Fort whereas inspite of a very good railway track the train is not hauled by a diesel engine between Barmer and Jodhpur;

(c) if so, the reasons for ignoring this track ; and

(d) when a diesel engine will be provided to this train on this route ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) No, Sir. However 207/208 Jodhpur-Agra Fort Express has been extended to Barmer.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Since there is scope for increasing the number of coaches on the train between Barmer and Jodhpur under the existing traction as also due to the fact that dieselisation will not result in any tangible speeding up as track speed for diesel locomotives is not much higher, there is no justification for dieselising the train between Jodhpur and Barmer.

Diesel Shed at Kharagpur

2652. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway authorities have sanctioned the working of the diesel shed at Kharagpur;

(b) if so, what is the date of sanction of the shed;

(c) whether any work has been started there; and

(d) if so, the quantum of work undertaken at present and how many workers are now engaged ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) March, 1981.

(c) and (d). Fabrication of steel structures and erection of columns are in progress. About 40 workers (contractor's labour) are engaged at present.

Contractor of flyover of Circular Railway in Calcutta

2653. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) who is the contractor of the flyover of Circular Railway in Calcutta which collapsed on 23 February, 1985;

(b) what are particulars of other contracts given by Government to this particular contractor;

(c) the action taken by Government against those responsible for the tragic incident; and

(d) when the construction of the flyover is expected to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) The contractor for the foot-over-bridge (and not a fly-over) which collapsed is M/s New India Construction, Calcutta.

(b) One more contract awarded to this contractor is regarding construction of Ramp from Belgachia Bridge to Tala Station.

(c) Full cost of damages suffered by the Railway is being recovered from the Contractor. Compensation to workmen as per Workmen's Compensation Act will be recovered from the contractor. Disciplinary action against the concerned Inspector of Works has been initiated.

(d) The foot-over-bridge is expected to be completed by July 1985.