

(a) when the Branch line from Barhan to Etah on Northern Railway was inaugurated ;

(b) what is the annual loss/profit incurred/earned by Government during the last three years, year-wise ; and

(c) in case the line has been running continuously at a loss, what steps have been taken by Government to make the service between Barhan and Etah financially viable ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) The Branch line from Barhan to Etah was opened on 10.1.1959.

(b) The year-wise loss on this line was as under :

1981-82	Rs. 65.63 lakh
1982-83	Rs. 60.60 lakh
1983-84	Rs. 60.58 lakh

(c) Though the losses in operating this line have been reduced during the last 2 years, there is very limited scope for making it financially viable. However, with a view to further improve the position, 4 flag stations on this line have been converted into contractor-operated halts in May, 1984 and ticket checking has been intensified.

Loan assistance for two bridges on rivers Mayarakshi and Kuye in Murshidabad District of West Bengal

4717. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that plans and estimates submitted by the West Bengal Government for construction of bridges on the rivers Mayarakshi and Kuye in Murshidabad District on the proposed arterial road from Haldia to Farakka are pending approval of Government ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the schemes being of inter-State or Economic

Importance, Government agreed to grant a loan assistance to the West Bengal Government for the execution of the said scheme during the Sixth Plan period ;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to give approval to the said plans and estimates and authorisation of expenditure ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) :

(a) to (c). Government of India approved a loan assistance of Rs. 297.00 lacs to the Government of West Bengal for the construction of three bridges over the rivers Ajoy, Kuye and Mayurakshi on the arterial road from Moregram to Tamluk under the Central Aid Programme of loan assistance for state roads of inter-state or economic importance during the 6th Five Year Plan. The State Government however, sent a revised proposal in 1984 for utilising this loan assistance for construction of only two bridges over rivers Kuye and Mayurakshi including approaches subject to the condition that the third bridge over river Ajoy will be constructed by the State Government from their own resources. The proposal of the State Government has since been accepted. The estimates for the two bridges over rivers Kuye and Mayurakshi will be sanctioned after further information, clarification, as called for from the State Government, is received.

(d) Does not arise.

Proposal for a road over-bridge on National Highway No. 34 at Berhampur in West Bengal

4718. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal alongwith necessary estimate for construction of a road over-bridge on National Highway No. 34 at Berhampur (Murshidabad) has been submitted by the Government of West Bengal ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b). The estimate alongwith the proposal for construction of road-over-bridge has been received in the Ministry from the State Government and is under examination.

Scheme for widening and strengthening of Chunakhali-Jalangi Road under strategic road programme

4719. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Scheme for widening and strengthening of the Chunakhali-Jalangi Road connecting a good number of border outposts of vital importance in the District of Murshidabad has been submitted by the Government of West Bengal to the Union Government for inclusion under the strategic road programme ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A proposal for inclusion of the scheme for widening and strengthening of Chunakhali-Jalangi Road from 0 km to 48 km of SH 11 in the District of Murshidabad under the strategic road programme during 1985-86 has been received from West Bengal Government.

(c) On examination it has been found not necessary to include this scheme under the Strategic Road Programme.

Flood forecasting

4720. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Water Commission is engaged in

the collection, analysis and dissemination of hydrological observation data and flood forecasting ;

(b) if so, what are its performance during the last three years so far as flood forecasting is concerned, year-wise details ; and

(c) what is the performance of its Eastern Division during the same period ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) The Central Water Commission is engaged in collection, analysis and dissemination of hydrological observation data and flood forecasting on inter-State flood-prone rivers.

(b) and (c). The number of flood forecasts issued during the last three years for the country as a whole and for the Eastern Division are :

Year	No. of forecasts (for country as a whole)	Eastern Division
1982	4356	14
1983	5090	13
1984	5339	4

New Railway Station at Umroli

4721. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to establish a new Railway Station at Umroli (Western Railway) between Palghar and Boiser (Western Railway) ;

(b) if so ; when ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir,