

(c) and (d) As the ship repair facilities were commissioned only in 1981, and the original project, in all respects, was completed only in 1984, it was pre-mature to make further investment on any new schemes until such time as Production stabilised and system lacuna were identified.

(c) Certain proposals, for expansion of shipbuilding/ship repair facilities of CSL were considered by the Working Group set up by Govt. for the formulation of VIIIth Five Year Plan on Shipbuilding and Shiprepair Industry. Since the content and size of the VIIIth Plan have not yet been finalised, the picture will be clear only after finalisation of overall VIIIth Plan and the detailed economic and financial viability of such schemes.

#### Hobli-Karwar Rail Link

464. SHRI D.K. NAIKAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that official survey has been conducted twice in respect of Hubli-Karwar rail link;

(b) whether the reports reveal that the project is feasible and viable in the present circumstances having regard to development of Karwar and Industries of Karwar; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to construct Hubli-Karwar rail line at least in 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) to (c) Surveys have been conducted in the past in 1964, 1973 & 1977 for construction of a line between Hubli and Karwar, but each time the project was found to be financially not viable. The project was therefore, deferred. A further Reappraisal Survey has been ordered to take into account the latest developments. After the Report of the Re-appraisal Survey is received and examined, a decision regarding construction of the line will be taken, subject to clearance by the Planning Commission.

#### Daily Lunning of Delhi-Jodhpur, Delhi-Ahmedabad and Ahmedabad-Mandor Superfast Trains

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

(a) the difficulty being experienced in running the Delhi-Jodhpur, Delhi-Ahmedabad and Ahmedabad-Mandor Superfast trains daily; and

(b) the time by which these trains are proposed to be run daily for the convenience of the passengers ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Railways do not have coaches and diesel engines to run these trains daily.

(b) There is no proposal to this effect.

#### Norms Followed for Inviting Tenders for Laying of New National Highways

466. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the norms being followed for inviting Tenders for construction of new National Highways;

(b) whether Government are trying to eliminate Indian contractors from construction of new National Highways by inviting global tenders; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) to (c) Constitutionally, the Government of India are responsible for roads declared as National Highways. The execution of works, however, rests with State P.W.Ds and the tenders for execution of such works are invited by State P.W.Ds according to the prevailing rules. Recently, in case of six projects being financed by the World Bank to an extent of 200 million U.S. Dollars, the World Bank has stipulated that the tenders for execution of these works should be put to international competitive bidding. The Indian contractors bidding for such projects will, however, be offered 7.5% price preference.

#### Transportation of Sugar to Various States

467. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have been directed to accord top priority to sugar movement;