

Flag-Station in Jaluabere at Howrah-Amta line

3. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the plan for a flag station in Jaluabere at Howrah-Amta line had been accepted by the Railway Board ;

(b) whether the work-order for this flag-station has been issued ; and

(c) the progress made so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Subsidies/Concessions Introduced by Transport Department in view of Country Wide Drought

4. SHRIMATI N.P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) in view of the drought existing in many parts of the country, what are the new subsidies/concessions introduced by the Transport Department (Railways in particular), if any, to induce transport of farm/agricultural needs as fodder, feeds, natural manures, etc., to such areas in the present plan ; and

(b) the steps the Ministry are taking to popularise such facilities, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). Fodder booked by rail for distances beyond 200 kilometres to scarcity affected areas is charged at a concessional rate at class 110 subject to fulfilment of the prescribed conditions.

The State Governments have been advised of the availability of this concession for availing of the same by approaching the Zonal Railway Administrations.

Electrification of Railway Platforms in Karnataka

5. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of railway platforms at present in Karnataka where arrangements of electric light do not exist ; and

(b) the steps proposed to electrify the railway platforms there during the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) 86 stations including 37 Halts.

(b) 5 stations have already been programmed for electrification and balance stations would be taken in hand in subsequent years' Works Programmes, subject to availability of funds and priorities assigned by the 'Passengers Amenities Committees.

Plan to increase passenger and freight Traffic by 2000 AD

6. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways had formulated a plan for the period 1985-86, planning 90 per cent increase in both passenger and freight traffic by 2000 AD ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Indian Railways' Corporate Plan covering the 15-year period from 1985 to 2000 AD envisages growth of passenger and goods traffic of about 87% and 114% respectively.

(b) The Plan envisages an investment of about Rs. 45,000 crores for development of requisite rolling stock and line capacity, upgradation of technology and modernisation of the system. Running of longer passenger trains and heavier freight trains, progressive electrification of important/high density routes, computerisation of freight