

(b) The Government have set up Cardiac centres in the country with facilities of special investigative laboratory, medical cardi-ological unit, intensive care unit and Cardiac surgery unit to give treatment to cardiac patients

(c) Government is not aware of the number of cardiologists in the country as no reliable assessment has been made in this regard.

(d) All major hospitals (both at the Central Government and privately owned) in the country are having intensive-care-units.

(e) There are 13 institutions in the coun-try performing complicated heart surgery cases.

Railway Line between Vidarbha and Bombay

2930. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to con-struct a railway line between Vidarbha and Bombay; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAD-HAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Rail lines already exist between Vid-harbha and Bombay.

Conversion of Manmad-Parli Vajjnath and Parbhani-Mudkhed Railway Lines

2931. SHRI ASHOK SHANKAR RAO CHAVAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of conversion of metre gauge railway line to broad gauge on Manmad-Aurangabad-Parbhani-Parli-

Vajjnath and Parbhani-Purna-Mudkhed railway routes in Marathwada region has been delayed due to constraints of funds;

(b) if so, whether the State Government of Maharashtra has requested the Rail-ways to work out a scheme wherein a part of the cost could be borne by it by raising debentures; and

(c) if so, the progress made in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAD-HAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government of Maharashtra had suggested that the approved gauge conversion projects in Maharashtra could be partly funded by debentures to be raised by the State Government and to be subsequently recovered by levy of sur-charge on the users of the service.

The State Government had since been advised that the above scheme would have first to be cleared by the Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission before any further action could be taken

Report of the Working Group on Shipping

2932. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a working group on shipping headed by the Chairman of the Shipping Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Group has formulated or submitted any interim or final report;

(d) if so, the broad details of the recom-mendations; and

(e) the reaction of Government to the major recommendations, particularly with