

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Length (KM)</i>	<i>To be opened in</i>
4.	Miana-Kolaras	47	March 1990
5.	Talcher-Angul	18	December 1989
6.	Rai Mehatpur-Una	11	December 1989
7.	Bhatinda By-pass Phase-II	2	October 1989
8.	Machiliguda-Rayagada	144	March 1991

Opening of Branches of Nationalised Banks

2175 PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new branches of the nationalised banks are proposed to be opened under the designated service area approach;

(b) if so, whether any survey work has been undertaken in this regard so as to launch the scheme and to cover the various villages in a scientific manner keeping in view the difficult geographical terrain and scarce population in Special Category States including Himachal Pradesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the likely date by which the survey work would be completed and the licences issued to the concerned nationalised banks for opening their branches; and

(d) if not, the exact methodology adopted by the Reserve Bank of India for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). Under the

Service Area Approach, on an average, a group of 15-25 villages would be allotted to a rural or a semi-urban bank branch with a view to bring about planned disbursement of credit. In some areas, keeping in view the number of villages allocated and bank branches, a few additional offices may be opened if considered necessary. RBI has, therefore, advised the lead banks to identify additional centres in such areas to the extent necessary and forward the lists of identified centres through the State Government to RBI for consideration of allotment. As per the information available with Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the survey has been completed in respect of 411707 villages under Service Area Approach. RBI has given time to banks for completion the branch credit plans upto 31.3.1989 and Service Area Approach will become operational with effect from 1.4.1989.

Smooth Running of Trains in Assam

2176. SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trains had to be cancelled during Assam agitation in 1988; and

(b) the steps taken to ensure smooth running of trains and to protect rail traffic