

[English]

Additional Lines on Santragachi-Panskura and Panskura-Kharagpur Routes

7442. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey work undertaken for construction of fourth railway line between Santragachi and Panskura and third line between Panskura and Kharagpur sections of South Eastern Railway has been completed; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Survey for the third line between Panskura and Kharagpur has since been completed and the report is under examination. The survey for the fourth line between Santragachi and Panskura has also been completed and the report is under compilation.

(b) The third line between Panskura and Kharagpur (45 km) is estimated to cost Rs. 77.44 crores. The delay in compilation of the report for the fourth line was due to the fact that exhaustive data had to be collected. Moreover, certain other important surveys had also to be done concurrently.

[Translation]

Clearance of Irrigation Project of Madhya Pradesh

7443. SHRI KAMMODI LAL JATAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Madhya

Pradesh has sent Kuno-Aisah and Beretha irrigation projects of Morena district to Union Government for approval; and

(b) if so, the time by which these projects are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). No such projects have been received at the Centre for technical appraisal.

Catering and mending contracts

7444. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted for allocation of work to a Cooperative Society regarding allotment of catering and mending and other contracts in the Railways;

(b) whether area of operation of a local cooperative society can be deemed to operate in the entire Indian Railways or in two or more zones;

(c) whether a similar local cooperative society of Muzaffarpur (Bihar) has been awarded contract of operating Pantry Car in Gorakhpur-Bombay-V.T. Train in violation of rules;

(d) if so, whether enquiries have been made in this regard; and

(e) if so, further action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The general criterion for a Cooperative Society to be considered for allotment of work on Railways is that it should be a registered, genuine and bonafide Cooperative Society.

(b) A local Cooperative Society shall not ordinarily have its area of operation beyond the State in which it is registered. Unless otherwise provided in the bye-laws, a local Cooperative Society shall operate within the local jurisdiction.

(c) to (e). The pantry car contract of 115/116 Gorakhpur-Bombay-V.T. Express has been awarded by North Eastern Railway to a Cooperative Society of actual workers after due verification and after following the prescribed procedure in this regard.

[English]

Concession to Entertainment Companies

7445. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have extended some travel concession to the entertainment companies or groups;

(b) if so, whether definition of entertainment companies/groups has been laid down and whether the minimum number of artist forming a group has been specified;

(c) the travel concession to be granted and whether the number of trips per year has been fixed for each group; and

(d) the measures adopted to check the misuse of such trips by rail by the parties?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The extent of concession is 50 per cent in Second Class. The number of trips per year not been stipulated.

(d) The concession is admissible only on fulfilment of the conditions prescribed by the Railways and on production of the requisite certificate from the nominated authorities.

Joint Ventures with Ethiopia

7446. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up joint ventures with Ethiopia; and

(b) if so, the fields in which the joint ventures have been established in last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Vacancies on account of retirement of Supreme Court Judges

7447. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the vacancies in Supreme Court which will arise on account of retirement of the Judges during 1989; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to fill up all such vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) During 1989, five vacancies will arise in the Supreme Court on account of retirement.

(b) Steps have been taken to fill up the vacancies in the Supreme Court.