

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that the historic fort at Khurda where the last freedom battle was fought against the Britishers in 1804, is now in ruins and as a historical monument it needs to be protected and declared as a prohibited area; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to protect this historic monument?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRMAJI SUSHILA ROH-ATGI): (a) Khurda Fort in District Puri, Orissa, is a monument protected by the State Government.

(b) Exploration and Survey has been taken up by the State Government which has been requested to take appropriate action for carrying out excavation and development of the area.

Expenditure incurred on Bankura Damodar Railways

726. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state the amount spent on Bankura Damodar Railways for improving tracks and coaches during the year 1984-85?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): During the year 1984-85, an amount of Rs. 6 lakhs was spent on improving coaches. No expenditure was incurred on improving track, but the tracks were reasonably maintained.

Modernisation of Kansabati Project

727. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of West Bengal has submitted any plan for modernisation of Kansabati project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) The West Bengal Government has submitted the Project report on Kangasabati Modernisation at an estimated cost of Rs. 311.38 crores. The project provides for

- (i) Construction of four small dams on rivers in the command area of the project for augmentation of surface water resources.
- (ii) Conjunctive use of ground water by providing 3400 tubewells in the command.
- (iii) Reducing the seepage losses by lining of the existing canal system upto water courses; and
- (iv) Construction of water courses and field channels upto 5 to 8 hectares blocks.

The Modernisation scheme will stabilise the existing irrigation potential of 2.58 lakh hectares besides creating new potential of 1.09 lakh hectares.

[*Translation*]

Linking Ghazipur with Air

728. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAO : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated to introduce air service to Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh immediately;

(b) whether it is also a fact that land for air strip at Ghazipur has been levelled; and

(c) if so, the time by which the air service will commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Ghazipur is one of the stations approved by the Government for airlinking with Vayudoot services. The concrete airstrip at Ghazipur belongs to the Government of Uttar Pradesh. Subject to availability of