

**Construction of Bhavnagar-Tarapur Railway Line**

1805 PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of construction of the new Bhavnagar-Tarapur Railway line in Gujarat has now been started,

(b) if so broad details thereof, and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN) (a) No

(b) Does not arise

(c) The project is under final examination in consultation with the Planning Commission

**Platen Machine in Kusreong Railway Press**

1806 SHRI K. B. CHETTRI Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether operation of the Platen Machine in Kusreong Railway Press in the District of Darjeeling is stopped since 1-8-1977

(b) if so, the reasons thereof

(c) total loss from 1-8-1977 to 15-11-1977 due to the non operation of Platen Machine, and

(d) what steps Government propose to take in order to start the operation of the machine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN) (a) and (b). Yes The operation of the Platen Machine was stopped since 1-8-77 as there was an injury to the machineman and an enquiry has been ordered into the circumstances of this accident.

(c) The production loss is 1.85 lakh double full-scale impressions and monetary loss Rs. 50 only.

(d) The machine will be commissioned after the finalisation of the enquiry.

**Sale of Books, etc. on Railway Platforms**

1807 SHRI SUSHIL RUMAR DHARA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) what are the reasons that the monopolies given by the Government of India during British Rule for selling books and magazines etc on Railway platforms to a few proprietors are continuing even now although they are exploiting the real workers and the publishers, etc.,

(b) is it not a fact that the proprietor of these bookstalls ask the publishers to print prices to the tune of fifty per cent more than the actual price and even on that charge commissions to the extent of 35 per cent or more and pay the actual workers not more than 61 per cent and exploit them in various ways,

(c) whether Government are contemplating to end this monopoly system and offer unemployed Graduates, Harijans, and

(d) if so by what time a decision is likely to be taken in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN) (a) and (c) At present no bookstall contractor on the Indian Railways has any monopoly right. As per the extant policy of the Government, all future allotments of bookstalls at railway station premises are exclusively meant for individual unemployed graduates, their Cooperatives/Associations/Partnerships and the Co operative Societies of actual workers/vendors already attached to bookstalls at stations. Harijans, who are graduates, are also considered alongwith other graduates.