quested by us when required; and by training our personnel in the certain fields as requested by us. No Russian personnel are working on this Project at present.

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Railway Development Programme

7935. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA. Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 184 on 29th November, 1977 regarding Railway Development Programme and state:

- (a) whether the working group has finalised and submitted its interim report to the Government:
 - (b) if so, the details therein; and
- (c) action, if any, proposed to be taken thereon by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes,

(b) and (c): The Working Group has made recommendations regarding the different programmes to be taken up in the 1978—83 Plan. These recommendations were taken into consideration while formulating the draft Plan 1978—83 and will also be taken into account while finalising the Plan.

New Railway line in District Thana

7936. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government have received a representation dated 10th October, 1977 or thereabout along with the resolution passed by Jawhar Municipality (District Thana, Maharashtra) in regard to the construction of new railway line in the backward area of District Thana (Maharashtra) namely Dahanu-Jawhar-Mokhada-Nasik; and
- (b) if so, what action have Government taken or propose to take in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes.

(b) It will not be possible to take up the survey for the proposed line connecting Jawhar with Dahanu Road and Nasik Road on account of shortage of resources

Casual Labour rate in Aligarh

7937. SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

- (a) what was the casual labour rate in Aligarh district during the year 1974;
- (b) the date from which the Coal handling, cinder picking and ash handling contract etc. at Allgarh was awarded to 'Railway Parcels and Goods Porters' Cooperative Labour Contract Society Ltd., Aligarh;
- (c) the details of rates fixed for individual items of the schedule and whether the same were in conformity with the instructions contained in circulars issued by the Railway Beard from time to time; and
- (d) what relevant facts and factors were taken into consideration by the Rate Fixing Committee, while fixing rates for individual items of work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) The casual labour rate at Aligarh in 1974 was Rs. 6 per day.

- (b) The coal handling, cinder picking and ash pit cleaning contract of Aligarh shed was awarded from 20th December, 1974.
- (c) A statement giving detailed rates is attached. The rates are as fixed by the rate fixing committee, duly taking into account the instructions issued by the Railway Board.
- (d) The rates were fixed taking into account the local conditions, the wages prevalent in the area and the volume of work.

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