

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) to (d). There is no proposal to extend Central Government Health Scheme to any city in the near future taking into account the need to consolidate the scheme in the cities already covered, and due to financial constraints.

Doubling of Delhi-Ambala Route

1302. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any sanctioned scheme for the doubling of section of the Northern Railway;

(b) if so, the period during which the entire route from Delhi up to Ambala via Karnal would be doubled;

(c) the estimated cost of the project;

(d) the latest progress made in the execution of the project; and

(e) whether Government have any plan to expedite the completion of the project in view of the heavy traffic on this route?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (e). Yes. On Delhi-Ambala-Kalka section doubling exists between Delhi-Ganaur. The work of doubling Ganaur-Panipat at an estimated cost of Rs. 3.65 crores is in progress and is expected to be completed by 31-3-81. The work of doubling Panipat-Bhaini Khurd and Shahbad Markanda-Ambala Cantt. has been included in 1980-81 Budget. The work would be completed in about 3 to 5 years time depending on allocation of resources by the Planning Commission. There is no sanctioned scheme for the present to double the existing single line sections Bhaini Khuri-Shahbad Markanda and

Ambala-Kalka and this will be considered in subsequent budgets.

The estimated cost of doubling the sections already approved is Rs. 22.00 crores approx.

All efforts are being made to complete the scheme of Doubling already sanctioned expeditiously subject to the availability of resources.

Kovalam-Trivandrum Line

1303. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHASAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether Government have any plan to construct a Railway line connecting Kovalam and Vizhinjam with Trivendrum Railway Junction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): No.

गंगानगर एक्सप्रेस के धूल भरे डिब्बों

1304. श्री मनमूल सिंह चाँधरी: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या गंगानगर से सादुलपुर तक रेल मार्ग कच्चा होने के कारण गंगानगर एक्सप्रेस गाड़ी के डिब्बों में धूल पड़ती रहती है; और

(ख) इस सम्बन्ध में क्या उपचारात्मक उपाय किये गये हैं?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन): (क) गंगानगर से सादुलपुर तक का रेलपथ बालू से पैकड है, कच्चा नहीं है। चारों ओर का क्षेत्र बालू वाला होने के कारण कुछ घुल डिब्बों के अंदर घुस आती है।

(ख) इस मार्ग पर रेल पथ की वर्तमान बालू पैकिंग के बदले धीरे-धीरे पत्थर की गिट्टी की पैकिंग की व्यवस्था की जा रही है। इससे काफी हद तक डिब्बों में धूल आनी कम हो जायेगी।