

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Sealdah division 376 coaches. Howrah division 221 coaches.

(b) 88 per cent of the trains are running in time.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

Durgapur Highway

2034. PROF. RUPCHAND PAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of Durgapur Highway in West Bengal has been stopped for quite some time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have decided to begin work for completion of the Durgapur Highway; and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) to (d). To start with the construction of the expressway between Calcutta and Durgapur via Palsit was taken up by the State Government. The work was suspended on account of financial stringency. Subsequently, the Government of India on request of the State Government declared Calcutta-Palsit section of the Durgapur Expressway as a part of N.H.2 in July, 1975. It has not been possible to resume work on this stretch so far due to financial constraints since the project involves heavy investment. Commencement of work on the Calcutta-Palsit section and its completion will depend on the availability of funds.

Normal Life of a Traction Motor

2035. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the normal life of a traction motor;

(b) whether Government are aware that the Railway authorities use these motors after the normal life;

(c) whether these motors are repaired and maintained properly; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Normal life of a traction motor is 25 years.

(b) Yes. Some motors are continued in service beyond their normal life to meet exigencies of service, if found serviceable.

(c) Over-aged traction motors are re-conditioned and rehabilitated to ensure proper service.

(d) Does not arise.

Ports in Western Coast

2036. SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state the number and details of major and minor ports functioning in Western Coast of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): There are 5 major ports on the Western Coast viz., Kandla, Bombay, Goa, Mangalore and Cochin and all of them are functioning. There are 121 intermediate and minor ports functioning on the Western Coast.