

**Length of Railway Lines in  
Karnataka**

3439. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of railway lines in Karnataka State and what is its percentage as compared to All India population;

(b) the length of new lines to be laid during 1980-81 with names of places; and

(c) the total amount sanctioned for this purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The total length of railway lines (Route Kms.) as on 31st March, 1980, in Karnataka State was 3013 Kms. Route Kms. per lakh of population in Karnataka was 10.28 as against 11.12 on whole of India, the percentage being 92.45.

(b) Nil.

(c) Does not arise.

**Guidelines for Opening Railway Out Agencies**

3440. SHRI R. L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines laid down by the Railway Board for the opening of Railway out-agencies for booking of freight traffic, passenger bookings, etc.;

(b) whether the allotment of out-agencies is advertised in the regional and national papers or these are given by negotiations;

(c) if not advertised, the reasons therefor;

(d) what is the initial period for which an out-agencies is allotted and when it is renewed, whether

similar advertisements are inserted and if not reasons therefor;

(e) the manner in which the present out-agencies had been allotted in Punjab and Haryana on the Northern Railway initially and as renewed from time to time and what procedure was followed in this behalf; and

(f) the commission and other Railway benefits given to the out-agents?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) An out-agency is opened to provide rail-cum-road transport facility to the travelling and trading public of an area, if traffic justification is there and a suitable contractor to operate the out-agency is available.

(b) The allotment of out-agencies is made after inviting applications through advertisements in important and regional news-papers.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The initial period of allotment of out-agency contract is 3 to 5 years. No advertisements are inserted while renewing the contracts on the basis of satisfactory working of existing contractors.

(e) The procedure adopted by the Northern Railway Administration for allotment and renewal of out-agencies in Punjab and Haryana was in accordance with the extent rules explained above.

(f) No commission is paid by the Railway to the out-agency contractor for goods and parcel traffic. Only the cartage charges recovered from the consignee/consignors are reimbursed to the contractor. A commission generally upto 2 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  percent) on the local portion of the fare in case of through passengers) is, however, allowed in case of passenger traffic on the fare collected.