

New Railway Lines in South Bihar

1565. SHRI RAM SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to construct new railway lines in the South Bihar; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). The construction of a new BG railway line between Talgaria and Tupkadih (33 kms.) in South Bihar has already been approved and the work is in progress.

A Reconnaissance Traffic-cum-Engineering Survey for the construction of a new BG line connecting Ranchi Road—Hazari-bagh Town—Koderma—Giridih has just been completed and the survey report is under examination. A final decision in the matter will be taken after the survey reports are examined from all angles, subject to availability of funds and clearance by the Planning Commission. Survey for Mandar Hill—Baidyanathdham is also in progress. Further consideration to this project will be given after the results of the survey become known.

4-Wheeler Wagons

1566. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently allowed an escalation in the cost price of four wheeler wagons;

(b) if so, the extent of escalation allowed; and

(c) the backlog in the production of four-wheeler wagons at present ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The Ministry of Railways have recently placed fresh wagon orders which take into account the escalations in the intervening period and other factors since the placement of previous orders.

(b) The extent of price increase allowed in recent orders with base date 1-4-1980 with respect to earlier orders with base date 1-3-78 varies from 43% to 54% depending upon the type of wagon.

(c) The outstanding wagon as on 1-11-1980 on the Wagon Industry (inclusive of the recent orders) were 41,352 wagons in terms of 4-wheelers.

Compulsory Helmets for Pillion Riders

1567. SHRI F.H. MOHSIN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government issued orders making helmet compulsory even for pillion riders of scooters (two wheelers);

(b) whether it is also a fact that the order has been stayed; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Provision of Section 85-A of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 and the Motor Vehicles (Protective Headgears) Rules, 1980, relating to compulsory wearing of helmets were to come into force from 1-11-1980. The relevant notifications were, however, cancelled on 31-10-80. The rules framed by the Govt. were examined by the Committee of the Rajya Sabha on Subordinate Legislation. Keeping in view their observations, it was to look further into the question of legality and constitutionality of categories of persons who are to be exempted from the provision of the Act.

Treatment of Cancer through Homoeopathic system of medicines

1568. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the claim made by some Indian doctors that cancer can be cured permanently by homoeopathic treatment;

(b) whether Government intend to give some financial assistance for doing further research and develop the medicine in adequate quantity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE: (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) No.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.