

Goa

20. Expansion of marine workshop at Batim.

Jammu and Kashmir

21. Provision of workshop facilities and a slipway.

Kerala

22. Improvement of West Coast Canal between Cochin and Quilon.

Karnataka

23. Ferry service between Kodibag and Sadashivga connecting national highways.
24. Modernisation of ferries.

Maharashtra

25. Improvement of Thana-Creek-Ulhas river waterways.

Orissa

26. Investigations for development of inland navigation in different canals and creeks.
27. Improvement of Orissa Coast Canal.

Tamil Nadu

28. Improvement of North Buckingham Canal in Tamil Nadu (Stage II).
29. Improvement of South Buckingham Canal.

Uttar Pradesh

30. Providing landing facilities and services on Ghaghara.

West Bengal

31. Provision of terminal facilities for passenger services along and across Hooghly near Calcutta.
32. Provision of landing facilities at six places in Sunderbans.
33. Improvement of Kristapur Canal.
34. Improvement of DVC Canal.
35. Improvement of Hijili Tidal Canal.

New Railway Zone at Ajmer

3248. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new Railway Minister has considered the desirability and feasibility of creating a meter gauge line Zone at Ajmer with headquarters at Ajmer; and

(b) if so, the decision taken ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) (a) and (b). The proposal to create a new metre-gauge Railway Zone by re-organising the Northern and Western Railways has been under examination for sometime. In view of the financial implications and operational difficulties, however, the same has not been progressed. The subject will be further examined by the High Powered Committee of Experts proposed to be set up as announced by the Minister of Railways in his Budget Speech for 1981-82 on 19-2-1981.

Railway Protection Force

3249. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the strength of Railway Police Force is still determined on the British Standard of 1912;

(b) whether it is fact that this is grossly inadequate for the current needs of track mileage, growing thefts, robberies and violence on the Indian Railways;

(c) whether it is a fact that States have refused to bear the additional financial burden of increasing Railway Police Force;