

(b) by when these Projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) (a) The section from Santragachi to Bargachia (24 kms) was opened to traffic in the year 1984. The work remained frozen after 1984 due to constraint of resources and low operational priority and was again taken up in 1995-96. Work is now in progress between Munshirhat and Bargachia (8 kms).

(b) By 2001-02

Dairy Industry

710 DR T SUBBARAMI REDDY Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state

(a) whether India enjoyed several competitive advantages in the dairy industry as compared to the other countries but has failed to make a proper place in the export market;

(b) whether dairy sector has not been included in the liberalisation policy;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH):

(a) The dairy sector in India is closely integrated to agriculture and milk production is generally based on utilisation of agricultural by-products and crop residues. The cost of milk production in India, is therefore, lower than in many developed countries. However, due to seasonal and regional variations in milk production and increasing domestic demand, there is not much of liquid milk left to be converted into milk products for export. A beginning has, however, been made.

(b) The dairy sector was included in the liberalisation policy of the Government of India announced in July, 1991.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Statutory Development Board for Konkan

711 SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has urged the Union Government to establish separate statutory Development Board for Konkan; and

(b) if so, reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Some discussions on the issue were

held between the former Union Home Minister and the Chief Minister of Maharashtra. Keeping in view the legal and constitutional complexities involved in the issue, it would not be possible to lay-down a definite time frame to finalise it.

[Translation]

Passenger Facilities

712 SHRI SUK DEO PASWAN Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is lack of passenger amenities at the railway stations situated in Ahera constituency; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Provision, augmentation of passenger amenities at railway stations is a continuous process and the same is done whenever so warranted by traffic requirements. Facilities commensurate with the volume of traffic have been provided as per norms at all the railway stations.

Railways however, maintain such statistical data Railway station-wise and not State/District/Constituency-wise.

[English]

Railway Electrification Project

713 SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Railway Electrification Project is saving only about one million tonne of Diesel Fuel (i.e. HSD) out of a total oil consumption of 61 million tonnes in the country, i.e. only about 1.6%;

(b) if so, the total investment on Electrification and the financial savings accrued as a result thereof; and

(c) whether freight market share of Railway is only 35% as against Government policy of 70% and if so the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The estimated saving of Diesel Fuel (i.e. HSD) during the year 1994-95, due to the movement of 402801.8 million GTKM traffic on electric traction is 1.31 million tonne which is 4.63% of the total High Speed Diesel consumption of 28.26 million tonnes in the country. Similarly during the year 1993-94 saving of Diesel Fuel (i.e. HSD) has been estimated as 1.23 million tonnes. The increase in the saving works to 6.5%.

(b) Total investment on Electrification upto 31.3.95 is Rs 2663.52 crore approximately. Though financial savings due to Electrification have not been specifically assessed, the saving on Diesel Fuel (i.e. HSD) alone works to 1.31 million tonne for the year 1994-95.

(c) The Railways freight share is about 40% of the total land freight. The decline in the Railways freight market share can be attributed largely to the rapid growth of the road network which has penetrated even the remotest areas thereby expanding the roads' market share, whereas the Railways development has been affected due to the sharp reduction in the budgetary support

Train from Surat to Patna

714. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no direct train from Surat to Patna.

(b) whether the Government propose to introduce a direct train between these stations:

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) There is no direct train between Surat and Patna.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Operational and resource constraints

[Translation]

Reservation Centres

715. KUMARI UMA BHARATI .
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the number of railway reservation centres in the country is very less and the public is facing great inconvenience as a result thereof;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to open more reservation centres, and

(c) if so, the details alongwith locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) The facilities for making reservations on trains have been provided at all stations over the Indian Railways where reservation quotas are available. At other stations, where trains having reserved accommodation stop, advance reservation may be made by sending messages to the stations where such quotas are available. Over 92% of the reservation workload of the Indian Railways has been computerised covering 275 locations and Annual Plan of 1996-97 provides for coverage of 55 additional locations. Provision and extension of reservation facilities at additional stations and other locations is a continuous process

[English]

Gauge Conversion in Andhra Pradesh

716. SHRI L. RAMANA . Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of proposals for conversion of Railway Line from Metre Gauge to Broad Gauge in Andhra Pradesh are awaiting clearance from the Government;

(b) if so, details of each project alongwith the allocation of funds separately.

(c) whether any new projects for conversion have been undertaken;

(d) if so, the details thereof and criteria being adopted for their selection, and

(e) the time by when these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) and (e) Details of projects, currently in progress in Andhra Pradesh, together with their targetted date of completion are given below -

S No	Project	Target Date for Completion
1	Dronachellam-Kurnool-Mehboobnagar	1997-98
2	Nandyal-Guntakal	1996-97
3	Guntakal-Kalluru	1997-98
4	Katpadi-Pakala-Tirupati	1998-99
5	Mudkhed-Adilabad (Partly in Andhra Pradesh)	1997-98

All the above projects have been taken up on consideration of development of alternative routes and generation of additional carrying capacity.

[Translation]

Cow Slaughter

717. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether after the incident of cow slaughter, agitation broke out in the Patel Nagar area of Dehradun in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) if so, the number of persons including police officers/workers killed/injured therein; and

(c) the number of persons arrested and the action taken against them?