

(b) The progress is as under:

(i) Ahmedabad--Bamanbore-Kandla Road (National Highway No. 8A)

	Work to be done	Work done so far	Work in Progress
New Construction	137 miles	66 miles	16 miles
Improvements	99 miles	49 miles	21 miles
Bridges	8		

(ii) Bamanbore-Porbandar Road (National Highway No 8 B)

	129 miles	25 miles	69 miles
New Construction			
Improvements			
Bridges	3	..	1*

*The work on Minsar bridge is in progress

Aerodrome at Kozhikode

365. { Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Kunhan:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state-

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the occupants of a fishermen's colony situated at the site selected for the proposed aerodrome at Kozhikode, and

(b) if so, what is the nature of the representation?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohuiddin). (a) and (b) The Pudiyanagadi Fishermen's Union, Kozhikode have represented that they should not be uprooted from their lands and that Government should drop the proposal to acquire the sites in the fishermen's colony and select some other site for the proposed aerodrome. The apprehensions of the Fishermen's Union seem to be unfounded as the site tentatively selected for the proposed aerodrome is not located near the fishermen's colony

Bandakpur Station

366. Pandit J P Jyotishi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Bandakpur on the Katni Bina Section is a famous religious place where lakhs of people come on a pilgrimage;

(b) whether due to the low platform and the small-sized waiting room the pilgrims are put to great hardships, and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to get the platform raised and a spacious waiting room constructed?

The Deputy Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No hardship is caused to pilgrims as adequate lighting and sanitary arrangements are made along with the two temporary waiting halls that are installed during fairs

(c) As approved by the Users' Amenities Committee it is proposed to extend the existing waiting hall during 1959-60

Kurnool-Hubli Rail Link

367 { Shri Agadi:
Shri Siddananjappa:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal to lay a railway line from Kurnool, Raichur, Gadag or Hubli through the Tungabhadra Canal ayacut area; and

(b) if so, whether any survey has been made in this direction?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Strike in Ghaziabad

368. { Shri Vajpayee;
Shri Sadhan Gupta;
Shri Khushwaqt Rai;
Shri Assar;
Shri Naval Prabhakar;
Shri D. C. Sharma;

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether some hundred members of the Northern Railway traffic staff at Ghaziabad struck work on 31st January, 1959;

(b) if so, the circumstances leading to this strike;

(c) the loss incurred on this account; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a), (b) and (d). One Shunting Jamadar on duty was assaulted at Ghaziabad at about midnight on 29/30th January 1959. On 30th January, 1959, the staff represented that proper arrangements should be made for their protection during the night hours failing which they would not perform night duty. They also demanded that one Sub-Inspector of the Railway Protection Force who was alleged to have some complicity in the assault, should be transferred elsewhere and that an enquiry should be held into the assault.

It was decided that an enquiry into the assault should be held immediately by three officers of the Railway and the decision was made known to all. However, 44 employees went on strike at 6 P.M. on 31st January and resumed duty at 6 A.M. on the next day. The enquiry commenced on the 1st February.

It was explained to the staff that action could be taken against the Sub-Inspector only after the conclusion of the enquiry. Not satisfied at this, the staff again went on strike at 6 P.M. on the 1st February. The strike was however, called off at 11-30 P.M. on the same date unconditionally.

The Report of the Enquiry Committee will be given due consideration and necessary action taken.

(c) Approximately Rs. 49,000.

This represents the direct loss accrued as a result of loss in passenger earnings due to cancellation of trains, additional expenditure due to diversion of passenger trains by longer routes, and hold-up of passenger trains as well as detention to goods trains, shunting engines and wagons in Delhi area and neighbouring stations on Northern Railway. This does not include the indirect loss suffered as a result of the repercussion on goods and passenger train operation at other stations and big yards of Northern Railway and on contiguous Zonal Railways, as this figure is not readily available.

All-party Food Committee for Delhi

369 { Shri Vajpayee;
Shri Assar;

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken towards the formation of an All-party Food Committee in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the steps taken?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). A Public Relations Committee which includes M.Ps. and other public men is functioning in the Union territory of Delhi, and the Delhi Administration do not consider it necessary to set up a separate All-party Food Committee in Delhi.