

**Bangalore-Miraj and Hospith-Hubli
Railway Line**

2826. SHRI D.K. NAIKAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress achieved in regard to the broad gauge lines from Bangalore to Miraj and Hospith to Hubli ;

(b) whether any allocation is made towards this work ; and

(c) if not, when this work is going to be taken up ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOU-DHURY) : (a) to (c) Survey report for conversion of Bangalore-Miraj MG Line alongwith connected branch lines is under technical scrutiny. A decision on the scheme will be taken after technical scrutiny, is completed, subject to clearance by the Planning Commission and availability of resources.

**Applications for Arbitration received by
Northern Railway**

2827. SHRI BHEEK TABHAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Arbitration clause is provided in the Northern Railway general condition of the contract and in the Agreement both in Engineering and Commercial ;

(b) if so, how many applications have been received by the Northern Railway from 1 April, 1978 till now ;

(c) how many contractors had been given Arbitration by the Railway and from the court of law ; and

(d) how many cases are still lying pending ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOU-DHURY) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha,

Closure of Ashok Paper Mill

2828. SHRI E. BALANANDAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ashok Paper Mill at Rameshwar Nagar, Darbhanga (Bihar) remains closed since last two years ;

(b) the reasons for closure ;

(c) whether it is a fact that Bihar Government has failed to revive this mill inspite of the fact that it has sophisticated machinery and infrastructure for high productivity and viability ;

(d) whether Central Government are taking steps to save this paper mill in the interest of country's economy ; and

(e) whether Government are taking steps to provide relief to the workers of this mill who are without wages since last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) and (b) Ashok Paper Mills, Rameshwar Nagar has been lying closed since October 1982, due to financial problems and operational difficulties.

(c) to (e) The State Government/ financial institutions are working out the modalities of the financing pattern for rehabilitation and the future management structure, with a view to resume the operations of the Company.

**Supply of Instruments to workmen
working on Pole/Tower carrying
Electric Current**

2829. SHRI E. BALANANDAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :