

Labour urging withdrawal of all orders of suspension, prosecution and break in service restoring pre-strike normalcy ;

(b) if so, whether Government have since considered the same; and

(c) whether talks have begun for securing cooperation of employees in Samastipur Division to improve railway working.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). As already stated in answer to Unstarred Question No. 1595 on 8th June, 1971 the arrests of some employees and their prosecution are for specific offences committed by them. Their subsequent suspension is an automatic consequence of such arrests. The break in service of those participating in an illegal strike is also an automatic consequence of such participation according to the extant service rules. However, the representations referred to in part (a) are under consideration.

Delay in finalisation of Karnali Project and construction of channel on Nepal Eastern Canal of Gandak Project

4071. SHRI BHOGENDR A JHA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1596 on the 8th June, 1971 regarding schemes requiring Indo-Nepalese Co-operation pending execution and state :

(a) whether delay in finalisation of the Karnali Project development and construction of Channel on the Nepal Eastern Canal of Gandak Project is delaying the clearance of the proposed alignment of the Western Kosi Canal by the Government of Nepal; and

(b) if not, the exact cause of delay ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) and (b). No indication has been received from His Majesty's Government of Nepal that delay in clearing the Western Kosi Canal is due to delay in finalisation of Karnali Project or of the construction of smaller channels in

Nepal Eastern Canal of Gandak Project. The approval of His Majesty's Government of Nepal to the alignment of Western Kosi Canal has been sought and is still awaited.

Decision on Survey Report for conversion of Mirajkurduvadi Latur line into Broad Gauge (South Central Railways)

4072. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1525 on the 8th June, 1971 regarding conversion of Mirajkurduvadi-Latur line into broad gauge and state :

(a) when survey for the aforesaid work was begun and how long it will take to complete it ;

(b) whether, considering that the area is and will continue to be backward till proper communications are provided instructions have been given to the team to complete the survey expeditiously; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) to (c). Traffic survey for the conversion of the Kurduvadi-Pandharpur Narrow Gauge section into Broad Gauge was commenced in January, 1971. The survey work is being carried out expeditiously and the Report is expected to be submitted by 30.9.1971.

Upgradation of post of Supervisory Structure in Commercial Department of Indian Railways

4073. SHRI PRAVINSINH SOLANKI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recommendations *vide* item No. 614 of One-Man Expert Committee headed by Shri R. B. Lal have been accepted by the Railway Board ;

(b) whether the Railway Board *vide* its letter No. 70/TC/RCC/Imp/614 of 1st March, 1971 has asked the General Managers of all the Indian Railways to upgrade the supervisory structures of the Commercial Department in parity with the Operating Department;