

Railway Line Feasibility Study of Narayanpur-Dhalli-Rajhara in Bastar District

7530. SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government are aware that the Government of Madhya Pradesh carried out a feasibility study of the Narayanpur-Dhalli Rajhara Railway line in Bastar District;

(b) whether Government are aware that there is a substantial difference in the findings of the Railway feasibility report and that of the State Government; if so, the particulars of difference; and

(c) if not, whether Government would reconsider the study of laying this railway line ?

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

(b) and (c). Yes. The differences are mainly in regard to the traffic that is likely to materialise on the new line. The report of the Madhya Pradesh Government has been sent to the South Eastern Railway for updating the feasibility-cum-cost study report prepared by them earlier.

Revival of S. S. Railway

7531. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN KADANNAPPALLI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether the S. S. Railway had been sold to one leading iron and steel dealer of Delhi and if so, the particulars thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : It is understood that the assets of S. S. Light Railway Company, excluding the land which is owned by the Government of India and the permanent buildings at Delhi-Shahdara and Saharanpur, have been sold for Rs. 1.31 crores by the liquidators of the Company to an iron and steel merchant of Delhi.

Alignment of Banks of Gandak River upto Saran Border

7532. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN KADANNAPPALLI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had considered for reconnaissance and model studies to ensure proper alignment of the banks of the Gandak river upto Saran border ; and

(b) if so, the progress achieved in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) The Union Minister of Irrigation and Power, after inspection of the breaches in the Bihar bund on the right bank of the Gandak early in July, 1971, has suggested the realignment of the Bihar embankment sufficiently away from the river and also planning of protection works against erosion after carrying out model experiments.

(b) The Government of Bihar have reported that necessary surveys and collection of data for the model experiments have been initiated.

Cauvery Water Dispute

7533. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN KADANNAPPALLI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mysore Governor suggested that the Cauvery water dispute be referred to technical experts of concerned States and the Central Water and Power Commission to ensure fair distribution of water ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) Press reports have been seen. Similar suggestions had been made by Government of Mysore earlier.