

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.

(b) All the aspects of the dispute over the Cauvery Water amongst the States of Kerala, Mysore and Tamil Nadu are under careful consideration of the Central Government with a view to finding out how the differences could be resolved amicably.

Waiting Rooms, Latrines and Urinals remaining dirty in Small Stations

7534. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether waiting rooms, latrines and urinals are found to remain dirty, unclean and unhygienic in most of the small stations particularly in West Bengal ;

(b) whether such complaints were made earlier also ; and

(c) if so, the action taken for keeping such places clean in wayside stations ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) No. The position has, however, become unsatisfactory at certain border stations in West Bengal due to heavy influx of refugees.

(b) No.

(c) Every effort is being made to maintain cleanliness of way side stations in West Bengal despite the difficult conditions created.

Fall in Industrial Production in West Bengal

7535. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether over-all industrial production both in the private and the public sector has gone down in West Bengal during the period between 1968-70 ;

(b) if so, the extent of shortfall of production ;

(c) whether any assessment has been made regarding factors like (i) strike (ii) closure of mills, (iii) go-slow tactics,

(iv) managerial inefficiency and (v) shortage of raw materials, contributing to such short fall of production ; and

(d) if so, the result of such assessment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHANSHYAM OZA) : (a) and (b). Based on the production figures available in this Ministry relating to 50 selected public and private sector industries in West Bengal, it is observed that production in 1970 declined in 23 industries as compared to the 1968 level of production, and in 26 industries as compared to the 1969 level, vide statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-877/71*].

(c) and (d). No such assessment has been made. However, the State Government had appointed an Inquiry Committee on closed and sick industries whose report was submitted on 30.12.1970. According to this Committee, the main reasons for closure were labour trouble, financial stringency, lack of orders and scarcity of raw materials. Some of the remedial measures suggested by the Committee such as the formation of Industrial Reconstruction Corporation and provision of relief to certain classes of undertakings have already been acted upon.

Setting up of Wine Plants in Cooperative Sector

7536. SHRI R. S. PANDEY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some proposals have been received for setting up wine producing plants in the cooperative sector ;

(b) if so, the main features thereof ;

(c) what is Government's policy for setting up wine producing plants in co-operative sector at present ; and

(d) whether Government will give more facilities in the case of such proposals for setting up more wine producing plants in the country ?