

(b) if so, the steps taken to start the work ; and

(c) if no decision has been taken, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) Surveys for the conversion of the Lucknow (Barabanki)-Gorakhpur-Bhatni metre gauge section into broad gauge have been completed and the reports are under examination. Surveys for the Bhatni-Barauni metre gauge section have practically been completed and the reports are under finalisation. Economic studies for these conversions are also in progress.

(b) and (c). A final decision regarding the conversion of these sections will be taken after the survey and Economic reports are examined from all angles.

Problem of Sea-Erosion in Kerala

2843. DR. HEERY AUSTIN :

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are

aware of the problem posed by the sea erosion that take place in the coastal belt in Kerala every year ;

(b) if so, whether Government are satisfied with the anti-sea erosion work conducted in the State ; and

(c) if not, whether any new proposals are under consideration this year ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Since 1955, the State Government of Kerala has been implementing anti-sea erosion measures consisting of sea walls, groynes etc., to the extent possible with the available resources. Uptil now, Rs. 9.5 crores have been spent and nearly 25%, out of the total of 320 km of the coastline requiring protection, mainly in the worst affected reaches, has been covered. The anti-sea erosion programme is being continued during the year 1971-72. The State Government have provided an outlay of Rs. 65 lakhs for the programme in 1971-72. The details of important schemes approved by the Beach Erosion Board for execution during 1971-72 are given in the attached Statement.

Statement

Serial No.	Name of Scheme	District	Estimated cost (Rs. lakhs)
1.	Anti sea erosion works at Sraiked, north of Alappad-Sea wall for a length of 1465 meters	Quilon	24.05
2.	Anti sea erosion works at Azheekal north of Sraikad-Sea wall for a length of 854 meters	Alleppey	13.33
3.	Anti sea erosion works at Neeqdakarsa-Sea wall for a length of 625 meters in between km 25.05 and 25.675	Quilon	9.6
4.	Anti sea erosion works at Vadakkal-Punnappa-Sea wall for a length of 900 meters	Alleppey	15.27
5.	Anti sea erosion works at Karoor, north of Purakked-urgent protection works to the eroded portion for a length of 700 meters ;	Alleppey	12.73

1	2	3	4
6.	Anti-sea erosion works at Thottapally-reforming the sea wall for a length of 762 meters from 0.224 to 1,006 km between base line stone 1&5 north of spillway cut	Alleppey	8.96
7.	Anti-sea erosion works at Valiyazheekal for a length of 1500 meters	Alleppey	33.3
8.	Sea wall in front of rare earth factory-Chavara	Quilon	15.0
9.	Construction of a sea wall in a length of 550 meters in continuation of the existing sea wall of 450 meters length for protection of Altheekal Coast.	Cannanore	11.20

Overbridge at Level Crossing at Ambattur Station

2844. SHRI T. S. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from Citizens Welfare Association, Ambattur for construction of an overbridge at the level crossing gate at the eastern side of Ambattur Station; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA): (a) and (b). A request was received by Southern Railway Administration from President, Grama Podunala Seva Sangam, Sivanandanagar, Ambattur for provision of foot overbridge at the level crossing near Ambattur. The party was advised to move the matter through the State Government or the Local body. Nothing has been heard from the State Government so far, nor have they sponsored a proposal for replacement of the level crossing by a road over/under bridge.

Construction of a Station between Saint Thomas Mount and Meenambakkam (Southern Railway)

2845. SHRI T. S. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey was taken long ago

for the construction of a station, Nangenallur between Saint Thomas Mount and Meenambakkam on the Southern Railway;

(b) whether the General Manager, Southern Railway, Madras has, after studying the survey reports, communicated to his Ministry about the need to have a station there; and

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in starting the construction work?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA): (a) to (c). The proposal for opening a new station between St. Thomas Mount and Meenambakkam stations was examined earlier and found not feasible. Fresh report has been received from the Railway Administration and the same is under examination.

Increase in Licence fee charged from Sodawater Stall - holders on Southern Railway

2846. SHRI T. S. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the licence fee levied on the Soda Water Stall holders on Stations on the Madras Beach Tambaram section of Southern Railway for the years 1968 to 1970, yearwise;

(b) whether the licence fee has been in