

sagar project proposed by the Government of Madhya Pradesh across Sone river. At the same time, it requests the Central Government that orders may be issued to postpone action on this project, because construction of this project will fatally affect the Centuary old Sone Canal system and completely damage cultivation of 7.5 lakh acres kharif, 6 lakh acres rabi and 1 lakh acres hot whether crops in Bihar State.

The Bansagar project proposed by the Government of Madhya Pradesh has not been approved by the Government of India. Efforts are being made by the engineers of Central Government, in consultation with the engineers of the Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar Governments to evolve revised proposals for the Bansagar project which might be acceptable to all the three States.

Finalisation of Balances of Ex-State Railways Merged with Indian Railways

245. SHRI K.S. CHAVDA : Will the MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the balances of the ex-State Railways merged with Indian Railways in 1950 have not yet been finalised; and

(b) what were the balances of ex-State Railways merged with Indian Railways in 1950 ?

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

(b) Balances are given in the Statement Laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-174/70*]

Rail Link between Kakosi and Bhildi (Western Railway)

246. SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : Will the MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) when the preliminary investigations for a rail link between Kakosi and Bhildi

was undertaken by the Western Railway and when it was completed;

(b) what is the estimated cost of constructing the above mentioned rail link;

(c) whether his Ministry intends to include the construction of the rail link in the 1971-72 programme; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) to (d). Investigations were carried out in 1965-66 for a new Railway line from wagrod to Bhildi with development of line capacity on the existing Mehsana-Wagrod section, as an alternative to development of capacity on Mehsana-Palanpur-Ajmer route. These investigations revealed that the new Railway line from Wagrod to Bhildi would cost about Rs. 2 crores and development of line capacity on the Mehsana Wagrod section another Rs. 0.24 crore. Since this expenditure was not found to be justified on economic and traffic considerations, the construction of this line was not considered.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes For Class III and IV Posts

247 SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : Will the MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) the requisite numbers of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates who were not available even after applying the relaxed standards in case of direct recruitment made to non-technical posts in Class III and Class IV otherwise than through a written examination since July, 1968;

(b) the number of the best among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates having minimum educational qualifications selected to fill the reserved vacancies since July, 1968; and

(c) whether they have been given necessary in service training ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) :