

(b) 51 trains are being run daily—passenger trains 16, mixed trains 19 and goods trains 16. Departmental trains are run as and when required.

(c) Total train kilometres covered by all the railways per day aggregate to 1.3 millions.

Laying of new Railway Lines from Balurghat to Malda and Balurghat to Kaliyaganj

3399. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :
SHRI R. N. BARMAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received a number of public representations to construct Railway lines from Balurghat to Malda *via* Buniadpur and from Balurghat to Kaliyaganj *via* Buniadpur, and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and how soon the construction work will be taken up ?

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

(b) Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Surveys for a new B.G. line from Old Malda to Balurghat are proposed to be taken up shortly. A decision regarding the construction of the line will be taken after the results of the Surveys are known.

Scheme for Education Assistance to Railway Employees

3400. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme for education assistance to Railway employees whose children are studying away from the headquarters on the lines of such scheme which is in existence for Central Government employees on the civil side ;

(b) if so, whether both the schemes are identical ;

(c) whether the Central Government employees on the civil side whose children are

studying in the Sainik School Kunjapura (Karnal) are entitled for education assistance under that scheme but the Railway employees are not getting such assistance under the Railway scheme ; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) to (d). The scheme for grant of educational assistance has been in force on the Railways for a very long time. In 1962, as a result of Jagannadha Das Pay Commission's recommendation, the Ministry of Finance formulated a scheme of children's education allowance for the Central Government employees on the civil side. The two schemes are not identical. Under the Railway scheme educational assistance is granted to the children of Railway employees who are compelled to send their children away from their headquarters due to absence of a school of requisite standard. The term requisite standard refers to Primary/Middle/High/Higher Secondary and also to the medium in which the instruction is imparted and under the Railway scheme it is not intended to cover cases where children are sent for special type of education in schools like Sainik Schools, while schools of the requisite standard imparting instruction in the language of the group to which the child belongs are available at the place of posting of the employee. Under the Civil Side Scheme, education allowance is given to the employees whose children are studying at a place away from the headquarters of the employee irrespective of whether or not a school of requisite standard is available at the headquarters of the employee. The Railway Scheme is designed to cater to the needs of employees on the field, particularly in small places where educational facilities may not be locally available.

कोटा जंक्शन (पश्चिम रेलवे) स्थित प्राथमिक
स्कूल का बर्जा बढ़ाया जाना

3401. श्री जॉकार लाल बेर्रा : क्या
रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कोटा जंक्शन (पश्चिम रेलवे)
स्थित स्कूल में रेलवे कर्मचारियों के बच्चों को
पाँचवीं कक्षा तक शिक्षा दी जाती है ;