

बहु लाइन बहुत ही अलाभप्रद होगी। इसलिये, इस प्रस्ताव का परिस्थान कर दिया गया है।

(ख) जी हाँ।

(ग) अलाभप्रद होने और धन की कमी के कारण प्रभावित रेल सम्पर्क को चौथी योजना अवधि में विचार के लिए प्राथमिकता नहीं मिल पायेगी।

#### **Accumulation of Coal at Pit-heads**

291. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have been able to make any headway in clearing the accumulation of coal at the pit-heads; and

(b) if so, the extent to which the accumulation could be cleared so far and by what time the remaining accumulation is sought to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b). Except for West Bengal-Bihar fields, the stocks of coal at pitheads in the other fields are normal, as despatches from the outlying fields are steadily going up.

A drive was launched in August '71 to clear the pithead stocks in the West Bengal-Bihar coalfields. As a result of this drive, despite the continuing difficulties in train running in the area, loading during the month of August '71 improved by about 660 wagons per day as compared to July '71. Consequently pithead stocks of coal at the collieries in West Bengal-Bihar fields also reduced to 7.38 million tonnes at the end of August '71 against 7.88 million tonnes at the end of July '71.

Though the level of coal loading in September and October '71 could not be maintained at the level of August due to unprecedented rains, floods and breaches, the same was still about 759 wagons and 250

wagons more than September and October 1970, respectively. The extent to which the pithead stock has come down as a result is not known as no official figures are yet available.

To effect further improvement in the transport of coal, a special drive has again been instituted on Eastern and South Eastern Railways from 11-11-1971 onwards for 10 days.

#### **Scheme for Mobile-Ticket Booking on Indian Railways**

292. SHRI BIJOY MODAK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are having any scheme for mobile ticket booking by the Indian Railways;

(b) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the observations made by the General Manager, Southern Railway on the 22nd September, 1971 at Madurai about these schemes; and

(c) if so, the main features of the schemes and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) During an inspection of Madurai Jn. station, the General Manager, Southern Railway had expressed the view that mobile booking of passengers in the same way as mobile post office arrangements could be useful in big cities. The matter requires detailed examination before any definite scheme can be evolved.

#### **Completion of Farakka Barrage Project**

293. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Farakka Barrage was supposed to be completed by the middle of 1971;

(b) the further time it will take to be completed; and

(c) the reasons for the delay ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) and (b). The Farrakha Barrage was completed in June 1971. The Railway bridge was completed in November and road bridge will be ready for traffic in another week.

(c) The slight delay in completion of railway and road bridges is due to heavy rainfall and flow in Ganga this year.

**Soviet Experts Team's visit to promote Economic Cooperation between India and U.S.S.R.**

294. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a team of Soviet experts came to India recently to negotiate details regarding increase in Economic Cooperation between the two countries; and

(b) if so, the results of the discussion ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) No visit by a Team of Soviet Experts to negotiate details regarding increase in economic cooperation between the two countries has taken place recently.

(b) Does not arise.

**Representation for Provision of Upper Class Waiting Room at Pattambi Railway Station (Southern Railway)**

295. SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from Pattambi Panchayat, Kerala requesting to provide upper class waiting room and more amenities in the existing waiting room at Pattambi Railway Station on Southern Railway; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMATHAIYA) : (a) Yes.

(b) The suggestions have been examined and it has been found that the existing passenger amenities at Pattambi railway station are adequate for the traffic dealt with and there is no justification for the provision of an upper class waiting room at this station.

**Foot over-bridge at Alwaye Railway Station (Kerala)**

296. SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to construct a foot over-bridge at Alwaye (Kerala) Railway Station is under consideration;

(b) whether the Alwaye Municipal Council have undertaken to meet the cost of construction of the same and if so, under what terms and conditions; and

(c) when the construction will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b) Yes. Requests for provision of a foot over-bridge at KM 87/12 near Alwaye Railway station was received from the Municipal Authorities. The Municipal Authorities sought permission to make payment for the construction of the foot over-bridge in five instalments. Rs. 15,000/- being paid immediately and subsequent instalments being paid on 31.3.72, 31.3.73, 31.3.74 and 31.3.75.

(c) Question does not arise, as the proposal for payment in instalments was not accepted.