

increased the area of irrigated land from the Sone Barrage from what was sanctioned by Government of India ;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government of India in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) No specific proposal from the State Government has been received.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Higher pay Scales demand of Desu Engineers

1207. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 3-men Committee headed by a retired I. C. S. official, Mr. T. Sivasankar, has found the long-standing higher pay scales demand of Engineers of DESU in Delhi as quite justified and has recommended an increase of Rs. 100 in the basic minimum salary of Assistant Engineers in DESU and has also suggested revised pay scales ; and

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations of the Committee and the time by which they are likely to be implemented ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) and (b). The Committee has submitted its Report but it does not cover all the terms of reference. It has recommended revision of pay scale of Assistant Engineers in D. E. S. U. The recommendations made in the Report are under examination of the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking. At this stage, it is not possible to state the time by which the recommendations, as may be finally accepted, could be implemented.

Extension of Broad Gauge Line from Sabarmati to Gandhinagar (Western Railway)

1208. SHRI SOMCHAND SOLANKI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to

extend broad gauge line upto Gandhinagar from Sabarmati in Western Railway; and

(b) if so, the time by which it will be done and the amount sanctioned for the project ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI) : (a) and (b). This work has been included in the 1972-73 Budget at an estimated cost of Rs. 3.0 crores. An estimate for this work is under preparation. The work will be completed in about two years time from the date it is sanctioned.

Route of Assam Mail via Farakka

1209. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had received a memorandum during the last Budget Session of Parliament signed by M. Ps. from Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur Tripura, Nagaland, West Bengal and Bihar and Union Territories of Mizoram and Arunachal asking for diversion of Assam Mail via Farakka; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI) : (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Cases of chain-pulling on North-east Frontier Railway

1210. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of chain-pulling on North-east Frontier Railway in 1970-71 and 1971-72 on Tinsukia-Lumding, Lumding-Chaparmukh, Gauhati-Alipurduar and Siliguri-Barauni Sectors;

(b) the number of genuine cases and the number of cases which were not genuine; and

(c) the number of persons punished in this connection ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI) : (a) and (b). The number of alarm chain pulling cases justified and unjustified, on Tinsukia-Lumding, Lumding-Chaparmukh, Gauhati-Alipurduar, and Siliguri Jn-Barauni

section up to Katihar on North east Frontier Railway is indicated in the table below :—

Section		1970-71	1971-72
Tinsukia-Lumding	Justified	95	33
	Unjustified	288	155
	Total	383	188
Lumding-Chaparmukh	Justified	111	71
	Unjustified	673	494
	Total	784	565
Gauhati-Alipurduar	Justified	26	9
	Unjustified	5,897	5,083
	Total	5,923	5,092
Siliguri Jn.-Barauni	Justified	67	7
	Unjustified	1,474	831
	Total	1,541	838

(Up to Katihar—The Katihar-Barauni section is not part of the North-east Frontier Railway)

(c) In 1970-71, 16 persons were convicted for misuse of alarm chain apparatus under various sections of the Indian Railways Act 1890. In addition one person was handed over to the R. T. O. for departmental action. In 1971-72, 2 persons were convicted, and cases against 9 persons are pending.

Re-introduction of Train from Tinsukia Station to Dhala (North-east Frontier Railway)

1211. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand from the public for the resumption of train from Tinsukia to Dhala (Northeast Frontier Railway) which was stopped some years back; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) Yes.

(b) The question of restoration of railway line from Dangari to Dhala is under examination.

Funds given to Assam for Flood Control Measures

1212. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the funds given by the Union Government to Assam Government during the last three years for flood control measures;

(b) whether the sanctioned amount was spent on the works for which it was sanctioned;

(c) if not, the amount diverted to other works; and

(d) the amount sanctioned so far for flood control measures for the current year, State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL): (a) to (c). Flood control forms part of the State Plans. Central assistance during the Fourth Five Year Plan for State Plan schemes is provided to the States by way of block loans and grants for the Plan as a whole and not with reference to any specific sector or scheme. As such there