

Nepal and Government of India to take up immediately the construction of the Head Regulator of the Nepal Western Canal of Gandok Project with adequate capacity to cater to the needs of the larger area and the designing of main canal in the initial block of 40,000 acres so as to provide for increased irrigation. The examination of the proposal is to be completed not later than June, 1973.

(b) In addition to increased irrigation in Nepal certain areas in Utter Pradesh may also be served.

(c) The Government of Bihar have been requested to start the construction of the Head regulator for the Nepal Western Canal designed for a discharge of 2500 cusecs. This includes the requirements of His Majesty's Government for extension of irrigation in Nepal when it is decided to take it up later.

Representation from Workers of Ex-B.N. Railway

4914. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any representation has been received in regard to the erstwhile workers recruited by the Station Executive Officer of Ex. B. N. Railway ; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken by Government ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) and (b). Yes, from an employee of the Station Committee appointed on 25-2-1942. The representation was not accepted as he was not one of those employees who prior to 12-4-40 were contributing to State Railway Provident Fund and were therefore permitted to continue to contribute towards State Railway Provident Fund. His service after 1-4-1950 only could be permitted to be counted for

retirement benefits, as employees of Station Committees were treated as Railway employees only from this date.

Supply of Uniform to Station Masters

4915. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain Station Masters and Assistant Station Masters are supplied with full uniforms including trousers and certain others are not supplied with trousers ;

(b) whether in other categories all employees are supplied with standard uniform ; and

(c) if so, the reasons why such a discrimination is practised with employees in the category of Station Masters ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) (a) to

(c). Uniforms to various categories of Railway staff are being given as per the Dress Regulations in force on respective zonal Railways. Hence there is no uniformity in the matter of supply of uniforms to the different categories of Railway staff, including Station Masters and Assistant Station Masters.

Exemption to TISCO from power cut to TISCO by D.V.C.

4916. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister OF IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that DVC has cut 20 per cent power to West Bengal ;

(b) whether the Tata Iron and Steel Company has been exempted totally from the power cut while all other industries in West Bengal have been affected by the cut ; and

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

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND
POWER (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA):**

(a) D.V.C. have imposed a uniform restriction of 20 per cent on peak load of all consumers in West Bengal and Bihar with effect from the 1st January, 1973.

(b) and (c). The Tata Iron and Steel Company has not been totally exempted from these restrictions. It has been arranged that whenever the Bihar State Electricity Board is able to take-over a portion of the Damodar Valley Corporation load, the relief thus provided is passed on to TISCO.

Modernisation of Indian Railways during Fourth Five Year Plan in respect of Equipments

4917. SHRI D. K. PANDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what was the total outlay provided in the Fourth Five Year Plan for schemes to modernise the Indian Railway system ;

(b) what is the total amount so far spent for modernisation of the Railway system ;

(c) what were the schemes undertaken in this connection during the Fourth Plan period ; and

(d) what is the progress achieved so far ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI):** (a) to (d). Modernisation of Indian Railways is a continuous process and one of the principal objectives of Railways' Five Year Plans has been to progressively modernise the system, which includes dieselisation and electrification of traction, planned gauge conversion, introduction of improved methods of track maintenance, signalling & telecommunication network

and adoption of improved types of wagons and coaches etc.

No separate outlay for modernisation as such was provided for in the Fourth Five Year Plan. However, a total provision of Rs. 1400 crores was made in the Fourth Five Year Plan under various Plan heads which also covered modernisation schemes. A total amount of Rs. 752.8 crores has been spent upto 1971-72.

Conversion of Pune-Miraj-Kolhapur section (326 kms.) has already been completed and work on 4 sections totalling about 1630 kms. is now in progress. 680 route kms. have been electrified and the work on 5 sections totalling about 1680 kms. is in progress. Provision of microwave link covering 4250 kms. has been completed upto 1971-72, besides track circuiting of run-through lines at about 400 stations and other signalling improvements.

Outlay provided for Passenger amenities during Fourth Five Year Plan

4918. SHRI D. K. PANDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total outlay provided for passenger amenities in the Indian Railways in the Fourth Five Year Plan ;

(b) what is the total expenditure so far incurred on passenger amenities in the Fourth Plan period ; and

(c) what are the additional amenities provided ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI):** (a) Rs. 20 crores.

(b) The expenditure incurred during the first three years of the Fourth Five Year Plan is Rs. 12.06 crores. It is expected that a further amount of Rs. 7.87 crores would be spent during the last two years of the Plan making a total expenditure of Rs. 19.93 crores.