

way Protection Force and others matters connected with the administration of the Force. The Committee has not met yet as the Government has been restrained by the Delhi High Court from giving effect to the re-organisation Scheme of the Railway Protection Force.

#### Rehabilitation of Pong Dam Oustees

313. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of rehabilitating the Pong Dam Oustees is proceeding satisfactorily, as per schedule drawn up by Government;

(b) if so, the number of Oustees settled so far in Rajasthan and the number of those who still remain to be settled; and

(c) whether the assurance given by him to the Lok Sabha in March, 1970 that the tunnels of the Dam would be plugged only after the complete rehabilitation of the oustees will be adhered to?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) to (c). The work of rehabilitating the Pong Dam Oustees is proceeding as per schedule. Except oustees numbering about 150 in two tikkas, all those whose lands lie below EL 1325, the maximum level upto which water is expected to rise during this monsoon, have been notified for allotment of land in Rajasthan. Out of about 11,100 oustees notified about 5,600 have so far applied for and received allotment of land of which 3,300 have taken possession of land. Movement is continuing.

All necessary steps for the rehabilitation of the affected families will be taken before final impounding of waters is commenced.

#### Silting in Bhakra Dam

314. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problem of silting in Bhakra Dam;

(b) if so, whether the Project Authorities have taken any concrete steps to check soil erosion in the catchment area and promote soil conservation in this area so as to minimise silting; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Soil conservation measures to reduce silting in the catchment area are in progress. There is now downward trend in the silting of the reservoir.

#### Conversion of Metre Gauge Lines into Broad Gauge Lines

315. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tracks in the various Railway Zones where conversion from metre-gauge to broad-gauge is in progress at present;

(b) the length in Kms. of each such portion and the approximate period by which the conversion is expected to be completed in each case; and

(c) the expenditure involved in each case?

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

(a) to (c). Conversion of the following metre gauge lines into broad gauge has been taken up during the

Fourth Plan period and is in progress. Length, cost and the target date of completion in respect of each case is also indicated against each of them:

S. No.	Railway	Name of Project	Length (in Kms)	Cost (Rs. in crores)	Target date of completion
1	North Eastern	Barabanki-Samastipur	603.89	46.80	31-3-1977
2	Southern	Parallel BG line from Guntakal and Dharmavaram and conversion of Dharmavaram-Bangalore City.	280.29	17.59	End of 1975
3	Do.	Trivandrum-Quilon-Ernakulam.	221.00	13.60	Early 1975
4	Western	Virangam-Okha and Kanalus-Porbander (including Jamnagar-Bedi and Kanalus-Sika)	556.97	42.93	31-12-1977.

**Beautification of Bank of Gobind Sagar Lake by Bhakra Dam Project Authorities**

316. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to beautify the banks of the Gobind Sagar Lake by the Bhakra Dam Project Authorities; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) No, Sir

(b). Does not arise.

**Agreement with Burmah Oil Company to reorganise Oil India Limited**

317. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been reached recently with the Burmah Oil Company to reorganise Oil India Ltd; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the agreement?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):

(a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Enquiry into the causes of cracks in blades of Turbine Units installed at Bhakra Power Plant**

318. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether blades of the turbine units installed at the Bhakra Power Plant have developed extensive cracks;

(b) whether an investigation has been made into the causes; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a). The blades of the 120 MW turbine units at the Bhakra Right Bank Power Station have shown a tendency of developing minor cracks