

(c) whether all the new lines are likely to be completed during 1996-97; and

(d) the total allocation made during the current year for the development of railways in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Two new rail lines, viz. Peddapalli-Karimnagar-Nizamabad and Nandyal-Yerraguntla in Andhra Pradesh have been taken up for construction in 1996-97.

(b) Proposals for 11 new rail lines and gauge conversion of two metre gauge sections, have been submitted by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) A total allocation of Rs. 257.14 crores has been made in Budget, 1996-97, for new lines, gauge conversions and doublings in Andhra Pradesh.

Expansion of Telephone Network at Calcutta

322. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand to expand the network/area of Calcutta Telephones;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c). In the past there has been demand to expand the jurisdiction of Calcutta Telephones to include some adjacent areas like Bhangor, Champahati, Falta, Rajarhat etc. As per the existing policy of the Department of Telecom, the boundary of a local telephone system like Calcutta generally corresponds to that of its municipal limits or limits defined by the metropolitan development authorities. Based on this policy as well as technical considerations, it has not been possible to accede to the demand.

Daily running of Guwahati Rajdhani Express

323. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to run Guwahati Rajdhani Express daily;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are any proposals to increase the coaches of this train and to hand over the train to North Eastern Railway; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Introduction of Superfast Train between Kanniyakumari and Calcutta

324. SHRI A. SAMPATH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the difficulties being faced by the Government to introduce a superfast train between Kanniyakumari and Calcutta; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the introduction of this train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). At present there is no proposal to introduce a direct train between Kanniyakumari and Howrah due to shortage of coaches and locomotives and operational constraints including non-availability of spare terminal/maintenance facility at Kanniyakumari and Howrah and line capacity constraints on various sections enroute.

Introduction of Shatabdi Express between Calcutta and New Jalpaiguri

325. SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for the delay to introduce a Shatabdi Express between Calcutta and New Jalpaiguri;

(b) whether any initiative has been taken to introduce this train during this year; and

(c) if not, the reasons for neglecting this vital route of Indian Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). Introduction of Shatabdi Express between Calcutta and New Jalpaiguri has been examined but it was not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

[Translation]

Relay Centre in Maharashtra

326. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up T.V. Relay Centre in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the location for which representations have been received for setting up the said Relay Centre; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The details of the locations where TV Transmitters are under implementation/envisaged to be set up in the State of Maharashtra are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d). Requests are received from various quarters, including the State Governments, for augmentation of TV service in the States. Such requests are kept in view, alongwith other factors such as suitability of location, availability of infrastructural facilities, extent of resultant coverage a inter-se priorities, while finalising locations for Doordarshan projects which is a continuous activity.

STATEMENT

TV Transmitters under Implementation/Envisaged to be set up in the State of Maharashtra

Transmitters under Implementation	Transmitters Envisaged to be set up
1	2
	HPTs
	Chandrapur
	Jalgaon
	Mahipatgarh
	Brahmapuri
LPTs	LPTs/VLPTs
Shirpur	Raver
Navapur	Pandharkawada
Mangaon	Khanapur
Khopoli	Mangalwedha
Mahad	Akalkot
Umarkhed	Daryapur
Satana	Dhadgaon
Sironcha	Phaltan
Chandur	Chimur
Aheri	Sakoli
Chikoli	Arjuni
Ambet	Kurkhera
	Sindewahi
	Patan (Satara)
	Karanja (Wardha)
	Pulgaon
	Tivsa
	Bhandara
	Tumsar
	Pimpalner-Sakri
	Wai
	Koregaon
	Ashti

1	2
	VLPTs
	Malwan
	Malkapur
	Bhokar
	Badlapur

[English]

Howrah Goods Shed

327. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state .

(a) whether the Government have decided to close down the Howrah Goods Shed, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Howrah goods shed is operational and has not been closed. The goods shed is situated immediately after the Howrah coaching station at the Southern end. Remodelling and expansion of Howrah Coaching Station is due now to deal with future growth and pattern of suburban and non-suburban passenger services. The modalities for this purpose were examined by two expert committees and the plan for remodelling and expansion of the coaching station has been finalised. Further, a task force with representatives from the Planning Commission, West Bengal Government, Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority, Calcutta Port Trust, Calcutta Corporation, Eastern, South Eastern and Metro Railways had also submitted a report in 1983 recommending development of additional coaching facilities by shifting Howrah goods shed. The Railway Reforms Committee (RRC) had also recommended shifting of Howrah goods shed in their report in 1983. There would be a need to shift Howrah goods shed in due course. Dankuni which is at a distance of 15 Kms. from Howrah goods shed is already dealing with bulk traffic and when further developed, it will be able to cater fully to the traffic of existing Howrah goods shed.

[Translation]

Development of Railway Stations

328. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :
SHRIMATI BHAVANA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA :
SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR :
SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Railway Stations modernised/developed by the Government during the last three years, State/UT-wise;