

R&D efforts and quality control measures with a view to achieve requirements of drugs during the Fifth Plan period.

Railway line between Silchar and Jiribam

8661. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in respect of the proposed construction of railway line between Silchar and Jiribam;

(b) whether the Project will be completed during the Fifth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the expenditure likely to be incurred and the time stipulated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (c). Preliminary Engineering cum-Traffic Surveys for a new line from Silchar to Jiribam have been completed and the reports are under examination. A decision for taking up the work during the Fifth Five Year Plan will be taken after the examination of the reports is completed.

Reservation of quotas of seats in Assam Mail and Kamrup Express for Manipur

8662. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering increase in the quota of seats in Assam Mail and Kamrup Express for Manipur;

(b) if so, salient features thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government are aware of the serious difficulties faced by passengers from Manipur under the existing arrangements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Imphal Out Agency served by Dimapur Railway Station serves the passengers of Manipur State. The Out Agency has been allotted a quota of one First Class berth, one Third Class 3-tier sleeper berth and two third class seats in a 2-tier coach by 4 Dn Assam Mail. A quota of two third class 3-tier sleeper berths by 6 Dn Kamrup Express has also been allotted with effect from 16-11-1973. The quotas allotted to the Out Agency are not utilised fully. There is, therefore, no justification for increasing the existing quotas.

Loktak Multi-purpose Hydro-Electric Project

8663. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Loktak multi-purpose Hydro-electric Project is not going to be completed according to schedule;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the schedule as it stands today after necessary revisions; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to complete it in time?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (d). The first unit of 35 MW was originally scheduled to be commissioned by March 1975. However, due to the delay in the delivery of the main generating unit which is being imported, the first unit is now expected to be commissioned by March, 1976. All other auxiliary and balance equipments required for commissioning has been ordered and partly received at site. Progress on the project is constantly under review to ensure completion as per revised target.