

line on the Central Railway was completed long ago ;

(b) whether the project has now been taken in hand ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(d) whether this line has been included in the Fourth Five Year Plan, if not, the difficulties faced in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) to (d). A traffic survey for this Railway line (as BG) was carried out in 1946 and a part of the Preliminary Engineering Survey was also carried out in the year 1946-47. Since the project was not found remunerative, the remaining portion of the Engineering Survey was not completed. With the present difficult ways and means position, chances of the construction of the line being included in the 4th Five Year Plan are remote.

VENTILATED WAGONS

1689. **DR. A. G. SONAR :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of ventilated wagons for the transport of oranges during the season at Kalmeshwar, Kohli, Narkher, Pandurna Katol and Multai on the Central Railway ;

(b) whether Government propose to provide at least sixteen ventilated wagons per day for the Multai Railway station from where all oranges from Marshitahasil are exported; and

(c) the number of ventilated wagons supplied last year at the above stations ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) No. The demands for loading oranges at Kalmeshwar, Kohli, Narkher, Pandurna, Katol and Multai stations on the Central Railway are placed for supply of passenger-fit covered wagons and covered wagons are supplied according to demand.

(b) Supply of covered wagons, including ventilated wagons available, for loading oranges at Multai during the forthcoming season will be effected as per demand.

(c) During the last seasons (both Ambia and Mrig), a total of 3,033 wagons, including ventilated wagons were supplied

for orange loading at Kalmeshwar, Kohli, Narkher, Pandurna, Katol and Multai stations. Demands for loading oranges are placed for covered wagons and not for ventilated type of covered wagons. A fair proportion of the covered wagons supplied were of ventilated type. The exact number of such wagons is not available.

CANCELLATION OF TRAINS

1690. **SHRI K. RAMANI :**
SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHANDA
SHRI M. L. SONDHI
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some passenger and goods train services have been cancelled following the private colliery owners decision to stop supplies of coal to the Railways ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the number of trains cancelled as a result thereof ; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to restore them ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Yes, some train services were cancelled from 7-9-67 to 14-9-67.

(b) and (c). The number varied from day to day, the average being 615 passenger trains.

(d) After prolonged negotiations with the Joint Working Committee of the coal trade, a settlement was ultimately reached and coal loading to the Railways which was suspended by most private-sector collieries was progressively resumed and train services were restored.

STRIKE BY WORKERS OF GARHARA TRANSHIPMENT YARD

1691. **SHRI K. RAMANI :**
SHRI BHAGABAN DAS :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the workers of Garhara transshipment yard near Barauni went on strike on the 7th September, 1967 ;

(b) if so, what were their demands ;

(c) the number of wagons held up ;

(d) the effect on the movement of food-grains to North Bihar due to strike ; and