

passenger train to run between Shoranur and Cochin in Kerala;

(b) the reasons for taking much time to cover such a short distance; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to speed up the trains?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) The time taken at present by an ordinary passenger train to cover the journey between Shoranur and Cochin Harbour Terminus is about 5 hours, minimum being 4 hours and 20 minutes and maximum 5 hours and 35 minutes.

(b) Speed restrictions on account of sharp curves on the section, clearance of four-wheeler stock by these trains, which are scheduled to stop at almost all stations, limit their booked speed. Overall running time provided is, thus, the minimum, consistent with the existing traffic, safety and operational requirements.

(c) Feasibility of accelerating the passenger trains by restricting attachment of four-wheeler stock is under scrutiny.

रेलवे की जमीन

2223. श्री रणजय सिंह :

श्री प्र० चं० बकष्ठा

क्या रेलवे मंत्रो यह बताने का कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रेलवे का फालतू पड़ी जमीन पर सस्जियां अथवा अनाज उगाने का निर्णय किया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हा. तो उक्त निर्णय कब क्रियान्वित किया जायेगा ; और

(ग) क्या इस जमीन पर रेलवे विभाग स्वयं खेती करायेगा अथवा अनाज उगाने के लिए अस्थाई तौर पर किसानों को दी जायेगी ?

रेलवे मंत्रालय से राज्यमंत्री (डा० राम सुब्रह्मण्यम्) : (क) जी. हां; खेती नायक जमीन पर ।

(ख) हिदायत जारी कर दी गई है. रेल प्रशासन पहले से इस ढंग पर काम करते रहे हैं और बुधार्ड के इस मौसम के लिए समय रहते वे इन निर्णयों पर यथा सम्भव अमल कर रहे हैं ।

(ग) रेल प्रशासन स्वयं खेती नहीं करेगा। अब से बाद की हिदायत के अनुसार जून, 1966 तक सब्जों और दूसरी फसलों का स्वयं काश्त करने के लिए स्टेशन याइों का जमीन रेल कर्मचारियों का और रेलवे लाइन के किनारे की जमीन किसानों को दे दी जायेगी ।

Bridges over Yamuna near Delhi

2224. Shri Lakhma Bhawan: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two new Railway bridges are presently under construction over Yamuna near Delhi;

(b) if so, when these will be completed; and

(c) the nature of these bridges (i.e. only Railway Bridge or Rail-cum-Road bridge) and full details thereof along with the progress made in their construction so far?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath): (a) to (c). A new rail bridge over the Yamuna, near Purana Qila in Delhi, has recently been constructed as a part of the Ghaziabad-Tughlakabad Goods Avoiding Line Project. This is a double track BG railway bridge (and not a Rail-cum-Road bridge), consisting of 12 x 150 ft. spans with 5 ft. wide foot-paths on either side. Though the bridge itself is complete, other works in connection with the Avoiding Lines Scheme are still in progress and the whole scheme is expected to be opened by end of June, 1966.