

(b) the percentage of women voters in these elections;

(c) how it compares with the General Elections of 1967; and

(d) the reasons for poor polling in various areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI M. YUNUS SLEEM) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected.

Capital Express

5577. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an inordinate delay in the starting of the Capital Express and also suspension of the Circar Express from Madras Central; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGA) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Upgradings in Scales of Senior Railway Officers

5578. SHRI YASHPAL SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain upgradings in the scales of the senior officers have been announced by the Railway Board recently ;

(b) if so, whether due consideration in this respect has been given to the railway officials who have equally put long meritorious services in the regional Railways and other Research Organisations under the Ministry ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) to (c). There has been no revision in the scales of pay but 148 Senior Scale (Rs. 700-1250)

and 106 Junior Administrative Grade (Rs. 1300-1600) posts have been upgraded to Junior Administrative (Rs. 1300-1600) and Intermediate Administrative (Rs. 1600-1800,) grades respectively, on the Zonal Railways Production Units and other Establishments under the Ministry of Railways.

These upgradations have been made, after taking into consideration the worth of charge of each post.

In filling the upgraded posts the claims of all eligible officers who are suitable for promotion have been considered.

Railway Line from Kottayam in Kerala

5579. SHRI P. P. ESTHOSE :
SHRIMATI SUSEELA
GOPALAN :
SHRI K. ANIRUDHAN :
SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal for the construction of link line from Kottayam to Bodinayakkanur, Permade and Kumili in Kerala ;

(b) if so, when the construction work is likely to be started ; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to the limited funds likely to be made available for new lines in the Fourth Plan, the Kottayam-Bodinayakanur line is not likely to merit adequate priority for consideration therein.

Doubling of Railway Line from Shoranur to Mangalore

5580. SHRI P. GOPALAN :
SHRI A. K. GOPALAN :
SHRI C. K. CHAKRAPANI :
SHRI VISHWANATH
MENON :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be