

(e) the financial implication of a high speed train and low speed train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The Research Design and Standards Organisation (RDSO) is a multi-disciplinary organisation engaged in research, design and standardisation in various facets of Railway working. A total of 112 Group 'A' and Group 'B' staff of various Directorates are engaged in the work associated with development of motive power, wagons, coaches and Electric Multiple Units/Diesel Multiple Units. The annual operating cost for these Directorates/functions is Rs. 10.2 cr.

(b) The cost of recent technology transfers entered into by Indian Railways are 9.2 million SF and 19.2 million OM for electric locomotives and US \$17.5 million for diesel locomotives over a 10 year period.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The present average speed of goods trains (BG) on Indian Railways is of the order 23 Kmph. Railways as well as RDSO have been making efforts to improve the average speed of goods trains through various measures which include, amongst others, development and introduction of higher capacity locos and freight stock fit for 100 Kmph, introduction of modern turnouts etc.

(e) For the present, Railways do not plan to introduce a high-speed train (160 Kmph).

Kolhapur Railway Station

782. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether requests for bringing Kolhapur Railway Station under administrative control of the Pune Division have been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of action taken on these requests so far; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). A number of requests have been received for bringing Kolhapur-Miraj-Pune section of South Central Railway under the administrative control of Central Railway.

Proposals for territorial readjustments between zones and divisions is under finalisation.

Car-Shed at Asansol Station

783 SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the work relating to setting up of proposed car-shed at Asansol station has been started; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Cancellation of Trains

784. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number and details of South bound trains from the National Capital proposed to be cancelled during the current monsoon season;

(b) the efforts made to minimise passengers grievances due to such cancellations,

(c) whether any special trains were introduced during this year's Summer Vacation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). None. During monsoon, trains are cancelled to the minimum extent only when track bridges, OHE supply, etc. are affected.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Three special trains were run from Hazrat Nizamuddin to Madras in May, 1996.

[Translation]

Girideeh to Ranchi Line

785. SHRI R L P VERMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether a survey to construct railway line from Girideeh to Ranchi via Kodarama-Hazaribagh town (295 km.) has been conducted several times from 1978 to 1991;

(b) whether Government are aware that funds for construction of this line were not included in the Railway Budget of 1991; and

(c) if so, whether any provision is proposed to be made in the Railway Budget for 1996-97 for the said purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) A survey was done in 1986 and was updated in 1991. The project was referred to Planning Commission who did not approve the same, as such the work was not sanctioned.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.