

(a) whether the Guntur Railway Division was inaugurated on July 5, 1997;

(b) whether the Railways had sanctioned doubling work of Guntur-Nadikudi Railway line;

(c) if so, whether the results of the survey are available;

(d) if so, the time by which the process of doubling is likely to start;

(e) whether the Government had issued any directions to carry out a cost-cum-feasibility survey for electrification of the Guntur-Nadikudi Railway line;

(f) if so, the details thereof, and

(g) the reasons for delay in implementing the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (g) A survey for doubling of Nallapadu (5 Kms. from Guntur) - Nadikudi Bibinagar single line section has been recently completed. The results of the survey have revealed the cost of doubling of the 243 Kms. long line as Rs.340 crores with a rate of return of 0.973%. The report is presently under examination. Further consideration of the project will be possible once this examination gets completed

A cost-cum-feasibility survey for electrification of the above section has been carried out. The rate of return found in the survey report being quite low, the section does not qualify for electrification as yet.

Rural Development Scheme

3135. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :
SHRI ARVIND KAMBLE :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has suspended few Rural Development Programmes/Schemes due to indifferent attitude of the Government of Gujarat and Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details and names of the schemes;

(c) the financial allocation made for these schemes and the present status thereof;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to re-start these schemes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) No Programme/Scheme has been deferrad on account of the indifferent attitude of Gujarat and Maharashtra Governments.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Administrative Tribunal for Armed Forces

3136. SHRI K.P. MOHAN Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to set-up an administrative tribunal exclusively for the armed forces; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard and the nature of cases proposed to be disposed of therein?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Government had earlier agreed in principle to set up an Armed Forces Administrative and Court Martial Tribunal in respect of the Armed Forces personnel. Thereafter, certain legal and administrative issues have been posed while processing the matter further. A view will be taken after a detailed consideration of these issues.

Salem Steel Rolling Mills

3137. SHRI T.R. BAALU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have any proposals to upgrade Salem Steel Rolling Mills as a comprehensive Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) to (c) There is no concrete proposal, at present, to upgrade Salem Steel Rolling Mills as a comprehensive Steel Plant.

Repair of Damaged Tracks

3138. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the tracks and sleepers of the Barang Railway bridge have sustained extensive damage following a derailment during October, 1998;

(b) whether the tracks on the bridge are dated back to late 40s;

(c) whether CBI is investigating the maintenance of the Barang railway line for improper ballast and tracking; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir. There was a derailment on the approach of the bridge resulting in damage to bridge timbers and sleepers. Rails were not damaged.

(b) No, Sir. Rails on the bridge are of 1987 and the age of bridge timber ranges from 1968 to 1997.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. There is no enquiry for this particular stretch of the track. However, CBI is investigating regarding supply of ballast in nearby stretch.

Accident of Patna-Gaya Passenger and Rajdhani Express

3139. SHRI D.S. AHIRE :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Patna-Gaya Passenger train rammed into the Delhi bound Rajdhani Express at Patna Junction on 18.9.1998;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of passengers killed and injured and value of Government property damaged therein;

(d) the amount of compensation paid to the victims;

(e) whether any inquiry has since been made in this regard; and

(f) if so, the outcome therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, on 17.9.1998, 10PG train arrived on Platform No.6 of Patna Junction at 22.03 hrs. The empty rake of 10PG train had a head on collision at about 22.52 hrs. with 2423 Up Guwahati-New Delhi Rajdhani Express standing on Platform No.4 of Patna Junction. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

(c) 1 person (outsider) was killed and 5 passengers of 2423 Up Rajdhani Express sustained simple injuries. The value of Government property damaged is Rs 4 lakhs approximately.

(d) No compensation claim has been paid so far. Compensation will be paid soon after the claims are decreed by Railway Claims Tribunal.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(f) The outcome of the enquiry committee is awaited.

Augmentation of Fleet of I.A.

3140. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state ;

(a) the steps taken to boost Indian Airlines and Air India fleet in view of its requirement;

(b) the funds allocated for the purpose; and

(c) the type and time by which the new arrivals are likely to be inducted in the fleet of Indian Airlines and Air India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Expansion/renewal of fleet by the two airlines is a continuing exercise and depends on various factors, the more important ones being the resources of the airlines, traffic requirements, suitability of the aircraft type and viability of operations of various sectors/routes.

Powers to Alumina, Aluminium and Bauxite Mines

3141. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the total annual Requirement of the Power for Alumina, Aluminium Plants and also for bauxite mines of the National Aluminium Company (NALCO) at Angul and Damanjodi;

(b) the total MW of power generated by NALCO from its captive power plants annually;

(c) whether the captive power plants are being modernised by NALCO; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in that direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) Annual requirement of power in Alumina Refinery, Bauxite Mines at Damanjodi and Aluminium Smelter at Angul of National Aluminium Company is as under :-

Plant/Unit	In million units (MU)
Bauxite Mines, Damanjodi	28.47
Alumina Refinery Damanjodi	293.46
Aluminium Plant Angul	3614
Total requirement	3935.93

(b) The total power generated by NALCO in Captive Power Plant (CPP) and Steam and Power Plant (SPP) during the last 3 years is as follows:-