

[English]

**Construction of Khurda Road-
Bolangir Rail Line**

2429. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of Khurda Road-Bolangir railway line;

(b) if so, the estimate cost of the above railway line;

(c) the fund earmarked for that railway line so far; and

(d) the time by which the railway line is likely to be started and completed?

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) The work is sanctioned. All clearances have been received. Final location survey has been taken up. This will be followed by land acquisition and the work would be started once the land becomes available.

(b) Rs. 353.38 crore.

(c) Rs. 15.49 crore.

(d) The work would be started once the land becomes available, and will be progressed as per availability of resources and completed in the coming years. No target date has been fixed.

[Translation]

**Provision of Employment to
Registered Unemployed**

2430. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY:
SHRI T. GOVINDAN:
SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT:
SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ:
SHRI GORDHANBHAI JADAVBHAI JAVIYA:
DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL:
SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether employment exchanges do not keep the record of such persons who do not get employment within a period of three years after getting themselves registered with it;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps to be taken by the Government to provide them job within a stipulated period?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) As per instructions, the Employment Exchanges are required to keep record of registration of job seekers who do not get employment provided they continue to renew their registration after every 3 years from the date of registration.

(c) The Ninth Plan envisages priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and underemployment.

[English]

Supply of Wagons to Kerala

2431. SHRI P. SANKARAN:
SHRI T. GOVINDAN:
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wagons sent to Kerala with PDS supply for the last three years;

(b) whether there is any severe drop in the arrival of wagons during 1998-99 to the State leading to depletion of buffer stock;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures taken to increase the supply of rakes to Kerala?

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) The actual input of Food Corporation of India foodgrains wagons in Kerala for last three years are as under:

1996-97	275 wagons per day
1997-98	263 wagons per day
1998-99 (upto February '99)	280 wagons per day

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) There is no problem in supply of Railway wagons for loading of Foodgrains for Food Corporation of India, for Kerala. However, programme for movement is given by the Food Corporation of India and Loading and movement is organised considering the loading and unloading potential and performance.

Wage Boards for Plantation Workers

2432. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a Wage Board for plantation workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Employment in any plantation is a scheduled employment under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 and the State Government is the appropriate Government for fixation of minimum wages.

Selection of TV Serials

2433. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have laid down any policy regarding selection of TV serials and their duration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of the popular serials abruptly taken off are being re-introduced on Doordarshan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Tourists Places

2434. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are projecting various tourist and pilgrimage centres by way of literatures, pamphlets and making of films on them to attract more foreign tourists in the country through their tourism offices abroad; and

(b) if so, the name of such tourists/pilgrimage centres, State-wise alongwith the name of countries where publicity has been given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

The Ministry of Tourism produces Publicity material like brochures, folders, films on various tourist destinations including pilgrimage centres to project India in a positive manner through its tourist offices in India and abroad.

Publicity material is produced on different States and Union Territories where there are tourist destinations, including pilgrim centres.

Group of Strategic Defence Review

2435. SHRI D.S. AHIRE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Security Council has established a group of Strategic Defence Review (SDR);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith functions of the said group;

(c) the time by which it is proposed to be in operation; and