

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to introduce new trains for Ahmedabad, Mumbai, New Delhi and Bangalore from Hubli after the gauge conversion;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which these demands are likely to be accomplished?

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

(b) The following projects for the improvement of Railway Network in North Karnataka have been undertaken :

Name of Project	Current Status/ Target Date for Completion
1. Gauge conversion of Solapur (Hotgi)-Gadag	The work undertaken in phases, is currently in full swing on Hotgi-Bijapur section, which is targetted for completion by 30.9.97. The remaining section from Bijapur-Bagalkot-Gadag, will be taken up for conversion thereafter and is likely to be completed by 31.12.98.
2. Doubling for Guntakal-Hospet section	The work has recently been cleared by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs. Preliminary arrangements for taking up the work are on hand.
3. New line from Munirabad to Mehboobnagar	This is a new work, which has been included in Budget, 1997-98 and will be taken up after the requisite clearances have been obtained.

(c) to (e) Introduction of new trains, including on Gauge converted sections, is an ongoing process on Indian Railways, subject to resource availability, operational feasibility and traffic justification.

Hubli is already connected with Mumbai by 1017/1018 Bangalore-Kurla Express (4 days in a week). Besides, Hubli is also well connected with Bangalore by adequate number of train services. Moreover, it has also been decided to introduce a weekly service from Bangalore to Delhi via Hubli during 1997-98. There is at present, however, no proposal to introduce a train for Ahmedabad from Hubli.

[Translation]

#### Electrification of Railway Routes

2911. SHRI SOHAN VEER SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of railway lines electrified during 1995-96 in the country;

(b) the details of railway lines in Uttar Pradesh likely to be electrified in near future; and

(c) the details of expenditure to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) During 1995-96, 609 route Kms. have been electrified, the details of which are given below :

Sl. No	Section	Route Kms.
1	2	3
1.	Dhatrigram-Katwa (ER) (Part of Bandel-Katwa)	53

1	2	3
2.	Karanjali-Nishchintapur (ER)	08
3.	Satbahini-Untari Road (ER) Part of Sonnagar-Patratu)	04
4.	Chitranjan-Jamtara (ER) (Part of Sitarampur-Mughalsarai)	16
5.	Karnal-Mandigovind Garh including Panipat-Khukrana and Asan sidings (Part of Delhi-Ambala-Ludhiana) (NR)	146
6.	Erode-Irugar-Walayar including (SR) Coimbatore-Podanur (Part of Erode-Ernakulam)	132
7.	(a) Mustabada-Bhimadolu (SCR)	66
	(b) Rajhamundry-Samalkot-Kakinada (SCR)	69
	(c) Visakhapatnam-Anakaplli (SCR)	27
	(d) Simhachalam (North)-Gopalpatnam (SER) (Part of Vijayawada-Vishakhapatnam)	12
8.	Dumetra-Lathikata (SER) (Part of Bokaro-Barsuan)	03
9.	Mohuda-Karkend (SER) (Part of Jamadoba-Mohuda)	14
10.	Manikgarh-Godchandur and Dorankal-Singareni Branch lines of South Central Railway	59
Total		609

(b) In Uttar Pradesh Sarsawa-Khanalampura section of Northern Railways is likely to be electrified by March '98.

(c) Expenditure on electrification of Sarsawa-Khanalampura section is estimated to be Rs. 11.66 crores approximately.

[English]

#### Development of Railway in Kerala

2912. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the projects to be completed in Kerala during 1997-98;
- (b) the projects to be taken of in this year;
- (c) the total amount allocated for various projects in Kerala during 1997-98; and
- (d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Doubling of 4 block sections between Mangalore and Calicut will be completed during 97-98 in Kerala.

(b) No new projects have been taken up in Kerala in 1996-97. However the following new projects have been included in 1997-98 budget :

1. Angamali-Sabarimala new line.
  2. Quilon-Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur and Tenkasi-Virudhunagar gauge conversion.
- (c) 61.14 crores.
- (d) A Statement is attached.

#### Statement

Project	Outlay for 1997-98 (Rs. in crores)
1. Angamali-Sabarimala new line	0.01
2. Quilon-Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur and Tenkasi-Virudhunagar gauge conversion	0.01
3. Calicut-Mangalore doubling	17.78*
4. Kuttipuram-Calicut doubling	1.00
5. Kuttipuram-Guruvayoor doubling	0.01
6. Quilon-Trivandrum doubling	12.33**
7. Railway Electrification-Erode-Palghat-Ernakulam including Cochi, Horbour terminus.	30.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>61.14</b>

\* Being increased to Rs. 50 crores by reappropriation.

\*\* Being increased to Rs. 15 crores by reappropriation.

#### Vacancies Galore at IA's West Zone Office

2913. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report in the 'Observers' dated February 4, 1997 under the caption "Vacancies galore at IA's West Zone Office";

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government to the observations made therein and facts of the matter;

(c) details of action taken/proposed to ensure filling up the vacancies; and

(d) how soon the vacancies will be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) A ban on outside recruitment has been imposed in Indian Airlines since 23rd July, 1992 pending, review of the staff requirement keeping in view the workload and productivity linked incentive agreements signed with various Unions/Associations. However, this situation is constantly reviewed and recruitment is permitted to fill critical posts as well as those reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes.

[Translation]

#### Live telecast of Birth Centenary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose

2914. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :  
DR. RAMESH CHAND KUMAR :  
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :  
SHRI ANANT GUDHE :  
PROF. OMPAL SHINGH "NIDAR" :  
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the birth centenary function of Subhash Chandra Bose was telecast live on Doordarshan from Red Fort;

(b) if so, whether there was interruption during the speech of a former Prime Minister during the telecast;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken against guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.