

A case has been registered and investigation has been taken up by the CBI in this regard.

(d) It has been decided to nominate only serving officers to serve on the recruitment committees in future.

Appointment on Compassionate Ground

5163. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations regarding appointment of dependents of deceased railway employees on compassionate grounds have been received by the Government during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the steps initiated to ensure their recruitment expeditiously?

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

(b) As a large number of representations regarding compassionate appointments are received by MR/MOS(R) in the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) office as well as by the Zonal Railways including Divisional Headquarters and Production Units etc., it is not feasible to give the details of such representations.

(c) and (d) Such representations are considered on merits keeping in view the extant policy regarding compassionate appointments and appropriate action is taken as warranted.

Metre Gauge Rail Lines

5164. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the kilometers on which metre gauge line is operating at present in the country zone-wise;

(b) the details regarding diesel rail engines and coaches provided to each Zonal Railway on metre gauge line during each of the last three years;

(c) the details regarding new rail passenger services provided on metre gauge line during the above period under Ratlam Railway Division; and

(d) the details regarding facilities given to Mass Rapid Rail Service between Ujjain-Indore-Ujjain?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) length (Route kilometres) of metre gauge lines zone-wise as on 31.3.96 (latest available):

Railways zone	Metre Gauge Route	Kilometres
Northern		2,075
Northern Eastern		3,514
Northeast Frontier		2,685
Southern		3,270
South Central		2,119
Western		4,838
Total		18,501

(b) Railways have not manufactured and supplied any MG diesel locos and coaches to zonal railways during the last three years. However, due to gauge conversion some Metre Gauge locos and coaches have been transferred from one railway to another depending upon the gauge conversion programme.

(c) 69/70 Mhow-Indore Fast passenger introduced.

(d) 9303/9304 Indore-Ujjain-Bhopal Inter-city Express (DMU) introduced.

Mining Lease of Alumina Project in Orissa

5165. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has submitted any alumina project for want of sanction of mining lease;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present position of the project alongwith the reasons for delay in clearance; and

(d) the time by which project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) to (d) The State Government have sent a proposal for approval to the grant of mining lease for Bauxite over 1388.74 hectares in village Baphalimai in Rayagada district of Orissa in favour of M/s. Orissa Mining Corporation. The Orissa Mining Corporation and INDALCO has reached an agreement that once a lease is sanctioned in favour of Orissa Mining Corporation, it will be transferred to INDALCO or the JVC named Utkal Alumina International. The State Government expects that the project will be covered within two years from the date of transfer of lease in favour of INDALCO.

Increased Traffic

5166. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the passenger traffic both domestic and international have increased largely over the years;