

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The statistics are available with the hon. Minister. You can get the necessary information from him.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRI MANABENDRA SHAH: When the Tehri Dam was being constructed, the people of Tehri Garhwal were given an assurance that a majority of the people would be taken in employment from the affected areas of the district of Tehri Garhwal. Now, the hon. Minister is saying that it is an all-India Project: maybe it is an all-India Project, but the affected people of Tehri Garhwal were given an assurance that they would be employed when the Dam was being constructed.

Will the hon. Minister give an assurance that from now onwards only the people from Tehri Garhwal will be employed and not from anywhere else?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: I want to tell him that Rs. 4500 crores have been earmarked for rehabilitation purpose; and preferential treatment is being given to the local people. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He has answered it.

[*Translation*]

Halt of Express Trains At Pura Station, Northern Railway

*423. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no halt of any express train at Pura Station in Allahabad Division;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to provide a halt for express trains at this station;

(c) if so, the names of the trains proposed to be provided a halt at this station and the time by which it is likely to be done; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

[*English*]

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Poor traffic offering.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, earlier some Express trains used to have a halt at Para Station in Aligarh District, but that has been stopped. Daily, hundreds of people from Delhi travel to the District headquarters, Lucknow and Allahabad but no railway facility is available for these passengers. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, the reasons for withdrawing halting of express and goods trains at this station. I would also like to know whether there is any proposal to provide a halt for trains there.

[*English*]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Sir, Para is a road-side station on Hathras Junction-Tundla section. Because of poor traffic there is no possibility to give a halt for the mail or express trains.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL: Mr. Speaker, sir, the hon. Minister said that the Station is in Danda District, but it falls in District Aligarh. I originally hail from Bijnor. All the trains running on the Jammu-Howrah railway line, including Mail and Express trains, stop after every 15 or 20 kilometers. Now, I would like to know whether the Government

has any proposal to provide a halt at the Shasni and Para railway stations in Aligarh district? If so, what are the schemes of the Government in this regard?

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: I mentioned that it is on Hathras Junction-Tundla Section of the Northern Railway. The present passenger traffic is so small and there are only 11 to 15 people travelling and for practical purposes it is not possible to give a halt for express trains there.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, why the halt was withdrawn? Is there any proposal to provide a halt at the Para Station in the near future?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already answered this question. It was decided to withdraw the halt because the passenger traffic is so small that not more than 11 to 15 people board the trains from there.

Expansion of Palanpur Station

*424 SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to expand the platform of Palanpur railway station and to increase the length of present shed there; and

(b) if so, the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has replied in the negative to the first part of my question. Palanpur is a big station, a major junction for that matter. A number of trains pass through this station every day and the existing facilities are inadequate and hence the passengers will have to face numerous difficulties. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government has any proposal to expand the platform of the railway station and increase the length of the existing shed there? if so, the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented?

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: The existing facilities here are quite satisfactory and there is no point, at the moment, to take up the proposal.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I said that Palanpur is a big station and that the passengers are facing numerous difficulties due to inadequate facilities there. I wanted to know whether the Government propose to expand the platform and increase the length of the present shed and if the answer is in the affirmative, then the time by which the proposal would be implemented.

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: The station has a main platform measuring 411.48 metres (292 metres portion high level and 119.48 metres rail level) and an island platform with two faces (one face, i.e. platform No. 2, 304.87 metre long and second face i.e. platform No. 3, 344.50 metre long). the station handles 11 pairs of mail/express/passenger trains per day, the longest of which consists of 19 coaches and is normally received on the main platform which is sufficient to accommodate the same.