

(c) and (d). Tenughat Thermal Power Project (Stage II) (3x210) MW) was sanctioned in February, 1989, at an estimated cost of Rs. 669.10 crores with original commissioning schedule of 9/94, 3/95 and 12/95 for Units 3, 4 & 5 respectively. Work on this project has not started due to financial constraints.

[Translation]

Rail Link from Mandar Hill to Dumka

2822. SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been received to extend Bhagalpur-Mandar Hill railway line upto Dumka via Godda; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to extend this line upto Dumka via Godda and by what time?

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

(b) No, Sir.

Conversion of Ahmedabad-Veraval Line

2823. SHRIMATI BHAVANA CHIKHALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested to convert the Ahmedabad-Veraval metre gauge line into broad gauge; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) The line from Ahmedabad to Rajkot is already BG. The Government of Gujarat has recommended conversion of

Rajkot-Veraval MG line into B.G.

(b) The proposal including various alternatives is under Survey. Further action would depend on results of Survey and availability of resources in coming years.

[English]

Conversion of Solapur to Wadi Line

2824. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for conversion of the railway track between Solapur and Wadi in Maharashtra is pending with the Government for years;

(b) if so, whether, there is any proposal to undertake the survey for conversion of the track in view of heavy traffic on the section.

(c) if so, when the survey is likely to be undertaken; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) to (d). Solapur-Wadi is already a Broad Gauge line.

[Translation]

Railway Bridges in Bihar

2825. SHRITEJ NARAYAN SINGH: SHRI RAM TAHAL CH- OUDHARY: SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of railway bridges under construction in Bihar at present and the bridges which are proposed to be completed in the near future;

(b) the total amount sanctioned for the construction of overbridges at railway stations in Bihar;

(c) the amount incurred so far thereon; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No Railway Bridge, having a name is under construction in Bihar.

(b) Rs. 174.24 lakhs for construction of foot-overbridges.

(c) Rs. 41.12 lakhs.

(d) The sanctioned foot-overbridges are likely to be completed by 1992-93.

[English]

Captive Power Plants

2826. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken to encourage captive power generation; and

(b) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). The existing

policy do not bar the establishment of captive power plants in the private or public sectors. Where the size of the plant is below 25 MW, the permission of the State Electricity Board is necessary; above this capacity, the concurrence of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is required.

The approved policy on the private sector participation in power generation, supply and distribution provides that captive power plants would be encouraged to sell surplus power to State Electricity Boards.

[Translation]

Air service between Surat-Bhavnagar and Surat-Delhi

2827. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to discontinue the Vayudoot services incurring heavy loss;

(b) whether the Government propose to give permission to any private agency to operate air-service on the routes hitherto being operated by the Vayudoot; and

(c) the agency likely to be permitted to start air service on Surat-Bhavnagar and Surat-Delhi routes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Due to heavy losses sustained by it, Vayudoot has been compelled to reduce its network drastically.

(b) No permission from the government is required for an air taxi operator to operate any particular domestic route.

(c) Does not arise.