

[Translation]

Modernisation of Railway Stations in Gujarat

2907. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of railway stations modernised in Gujarat during the last two years;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to modernise railway stations in Gujarat in near future;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government propose to set up any new railway station in the State;
- (e) if so, the district-wise and place-wise details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Modernisation of railway stations is undertaken on need based programme so warranted by growth in passenger traffic depending upon the availability of funds. During 1995-96 and 1996-97 allocation of Rs. 9.30 crore and Rs. 13.90 crore respectively were made for undertaking such works to Western Railway which includes the state of Gujarat. However, no state-wise details are maintained by the Railways. Modernisation works are included in the Railway's Annual Works Programmes depending on the overall availability of funds.

- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.
- (f) Adequate number of stations are already available.

[English]

Salaries and Foreign Allowances of Cabin Crew

2908. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) when the salaries and foreign allowances of Cabin Crew of Air India, were last revised;
- (b) whether subsequently salaries and foreign allowances of all other categories of Air India employees have been revised;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the time by which the salaries and foreign allowances of Cabin Crew and other employees of Air India are proposed to be revised?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) The salaries of Cabin Crew were last revised in 1990 for the period 1985-90.

(b) to (d) The Management of Air India have signed wage agreements with Air India Employees' Guild and Air India Aircraft Engineers' Association and also issued instructions for revision of pay scales and allowances in respect of Air India Officers' Association and Air India Engineers' Association. Negotiations with the remaining Unions/Associations/Guild are still continuing. No settlement has been arrived at so far.

[Translation]

Location of Headquarters of Newly created Railway Zones

2909. SHRI VIJAY SANKESHWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any expert/technical committee was constituted to take the decision regarding the location of Headquarters for the newly created railway Zones in Karnataka and Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details of the recommendations of the committee;
- (c) whether the South-West Railway Zone at Bangalore has been inaugurated without issuing any Government Notification; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) The matter of setting up of new Zones (including those in Karnataka at Bangalore and in Bihar at Hajipur) was examined in the Ministry of Railways following recommendations for reorganisation made by the Railway Reforms Committee in 1984 and by an Advisors Committee of Railway Board in 1994.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The inaugural function of the South-Western Zonal office at Bangalore was held after the approval for its setting up was received from the Cabinet.

[English]

Improvement of Railway Network in North Karnataka

2910. SHRI VIJAY SANKESHWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the demand of the people of North Karnataka for the improvement of the railway network in this region;

(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.