

(b) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Removal of encroachments on railway land is a continuous process. Action against the unauthorised occupants of railway land is taken under the provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

Development of Trivandrum Airport

1305. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken a decision to keep in abeyance the developmental activities at Trivandrum International Airport; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The expansion scheme for Trivandrum International Airport envisages interior modification of existing terminal building and extension of apron at a cost of Rs. 8.97 crores and construction of a new terminal complex at an estimated cost of Rs. 200 crores.

Gauge Conversion

1306. SHRI SITA RAM YADAV :
DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert Darbhanga-Jaynagar and Darbhanga-Narkatia via Sitamarhi rail lines into broad gauge;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which the construction work of above lines are likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The work is already included in the budget and is to be taken up after obtaining the requisite clearances. Action for obtaining the same has been initiated. Date of completion can only be fixed once the work receives the requisite clearances and has been started.

Construction of Railway Overbridges

1307. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned the construction of two railway bridges across irrigation canals along the Bangalore-Mysore broad gauge railway line:

(b) if so, the progress made and the amount spent so far in construction of these railway bridges; and

(c) the time by which railway bridges are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir. as 'deposit' work of Irrigation Deptt., Govt. of Karnataka.

(b) Work of bridge at Km. 110/3-4 started in March, 1997 but remained stopped due to public agitation demanding level crossing nearby and thereafter due to contractual problem. Now work has been restarted in May, 1998 by another Agency and an amount of Rs. 10,81,711/- has been spent so far. Work of bridge at Km. 40/2-3 will be taken up on completion of Bridge at Km. 110/3-4. However, tender work is under process. No amount has been spent over this work till now.

(c) Bridge at Km. 110-3/4, by April, 1999 & at Km. 40/2-3 by December, 1999.

Construction of Over-Bridge at Railway Crossing

1308. SHRI SATNAM SINGH KAINTH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Railway crossing at Phagwara-Nokodhar Road remains closed for most of the hours daily;

(b) if so, whether there are pressing demands to construct overbridge on this Railway crossing (near JCT Mills, Phagwara) to enable the public to move freely;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the said bridge is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.