

Eklakhi-Balurghat Rail Line

1906. DR. GOLAM YAZDANI: Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when the new railway line from Eklakhi to Balurghat in North Eastern railway was sanctioned and when the work was started thereon;

(b) the estimated cost of this railway line and funds earmarked in the Budget of 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91;

(c) the details of the scheme prepared for the completion of this project and when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The new railway line from Eklakhi to Balurghat was sanctioned and the work started thereon in 1983-84.

(b) The estimated cost of this Railway line is Rs. 47.18 crores. Because of acute constraint of resources only a token allotment of Rs. 1000/- could be made in 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91.

(c) Its completion would depend upon the availability of resources in the coming years.

Procurement of Rakes for Suburban Railway Bombay

1907. PROF. RAM GANESH KAPSE: Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of rakes the Central Railway is having for their suburban services in Bombay.

(b) the number of rakes to be scrapped due to ageing/damaged condition;

(c) the number of new rakes for which the Central Railway has placed order (for Bombay suburban area); and

(d) the steps being taken to expedite the supplies of rakes?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) 86.

(b) 18 Motor Coaches and 61 Trailer Coaches were overdue replacement on codal life basis as on 31.3.1990.

(c) and (d). The orders are placed by Railway Board. To meet urgent requirement for Bombay suburban area on Central and Western Railways, 72 coaches have been planned to be manufactured in 1990-91. M/S Jessop have been asked to step up manufacture of coaches from 72 to 90 in 1991-92 and to 102 thereafter.

Revival of Raghunath Express

1908. SHRI LOKANATH CH-
OUDHARY: Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand by the people of Orissa to revive the Raghunath Express popularly known as Puri-Tirupathi Express; and

(b) if so, when and if not, the reason thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) Presently not feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

Maintenance of Asansol Damodar Section

1909. SHRI PURNACHANDRAMALIK: Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state: