

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** (a) During July, 1990, Karnataka faced an energy shortage of 22.8%.

(b) 10—50% Energy Cut and 10—20% demand cut on HT industries with contract demand above 1000 KVA was imposed in Karnataka during July, 1990.

(c) to (e). A 2x210 MW thermal plant at Mangalore is proposed to be set up by the National Thermal Power Corporation during the 8th Plan.

### **Ban on Smoking**

1989. **SHRI BABANRAO DHAKNE:** Will the Minister **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Northern Railway has banned smoking in all the hospitals, dispensaries and educational institutions, run by it;

(b) whether Railways also propose to ban smoking in all classes of trains; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken in the matter and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c). Smoking has been prohibited in AC Sleeper and AC Chair Car Coaches. In other coaches, no person should smoke in any compartment, if objected to, by any other passenger in that compartment.

### **Foreign Air Services in India**

1990. **SHRI N. DENNIS:** Will the Minister of **CIVIL AVIATION** be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign air services operating in India at various flights;

(b) whether these airlines enjoy concessional rates; and

(c) if so, the details of these concessions?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI):** (a) A total of 41 foreign airlines are operating 277 weekly flights to/from/through India.

(b) No, Sir. All the foreign airlines operating services to/from/through India are charged uniformly with reference to landing/parking and route navigation facility charges.

(c) Does not arise.

### **Promotion of Salt Industry in Goa**

1991. **PROF. GOPALRAO MAYEKAR:** Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to promote salt industry in Goa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH):** (a) and (b). There is no proposal to promote Salt Industry in Goa as climatic conditions are not favourable for manufacture of salt by solar evaporation and the soil is not suitable for manufacture of salt on scientific lines.

[*Translation*]

### **Extension of Maharashtra Express Upto Gondia**

1992. **SHRI KANKAR MUNJARE:** Will the Minister **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend Maharashtra Express plying between Kolhapur and Nagpur upto Gondia keeping in view the public demand; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

#### **Extension and Conversion of Rupsa Banglriposi Line**

1993. SHRI SAMRENDAR KUNDU: Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have completed the survey for reversion and conversion into broad-gauge of Rupsa-Banglriposi Railway line in South Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). A survey was carried out for conversion to Rupsa-Banglriposi N.G. Line into B.G. and its extension of Gurumahisani and dalbhumgarh in 1981. The cost as estimated at that time was Rs. 11.07 crores for conversion and Rs. 9.56 crores for extension. The cost is now estimated to be Rs. 47.45 crores for conversion of Rupsa-Banglriposi and Rs. 39.25 crores for extension not Dalbbhumgarh and Chakulia.

On consideration of development of backward and tribal areas updating of the survey has been approved.

[*Translation*]

#### **Thermal Power Plants in Katihar, Bihar**

1994. SHRI YUVRAJ: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether only three thermal power plants are operating in Bihar where as in its neighbouring State, Uttar Pradesh, twelve thermal power plants are operating;

(b) whether agriculture and industry in Bihar are suffering heavy losses due to power crises;

(c) whether a thermal power plant of 500 MW capacity is proposed to be set up in Katihar district of eastern Bihar; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) At present, there are three thermal power stations operating in Bihar and eleven thermal power stations operating in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) There is no statutory power cut on agricultural industrial consumers in Bihar and the shortages are met by resorting to load shedding/restrictions, depending upon the day-to-day availability of power in the State.

(c) and (d). It is proposed to set up a 2 x 500 MW Super Thermal Power Station in the Central Sector at North Karan Pura in Bihar.

[*English*]

#### **Repair of Vizag-Balladila Rail Line**

1995. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state: