

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of direct Express Trains to Kanyakumari; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Doubling of Trivandrum-Kanyakumari Rail Line

8841. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for doubling of the railway line between Trivandrum and Kanyakumari; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Loss Due to Fire in Naphtha Tankers of goods Trains at Nagda

8842. SHRISATYANARAYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of loss to life and property in the devastating fire in Naphtha tankers of a goods train at Nagda in April, 1990;

(b) the causes of the fire; and

(c) the details of relief given to each affected person or industry and the time by which compensation will be paid to them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) There was no loss of life. Loss to railway property has been estimated at Rs. 1.6 crors approximately.

(b) The cause of the fire is being investigated by a Committee of senior railway officers.

(c) An ex-gratia amount of Rs. 250/- has been paid to each of the 19 injured persons. Claims for compensation as and when received will be decided as per law.

[*English*]

Resumption of Airbus A-320 flights

8843. SRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEKHAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to resume the flights of A320 Airbuses;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) the financial loss suffered by the Indian Airlines so far on account of non-operation of A-320 airbuses?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). The question of resumption of the operations of the A-320 aircraft will be considered after the report of the Court of Inquiry investigating the Bangalore accident is received.

(c) The operating loss on account of suspension of the operations of the Airbus A-

320 aircraft is estimated to be Rs. 2.55 crores per week.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of news print factory at Bhojpur in Bihar

8844. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for setting up a news print factory in Bhojpur or Rohtas districts of Bihar; and

(b) if so, whether the proposal for the news print factory has been cleared by Government and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b). No proposal for setting up a newsprint factory in Bhojpur or Rohtas districts of Bihar is pending consideration of the Government.

[*English*]

Compensation to victims of rail accidents at Patna and Malda

8845. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRI SHEO SHARAN VARMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of claims made for compensation on the death of passengers killed in the rail accidents at Patna and Malda (Maharashtra) during April, 1990;

(b) the details of compensation claims filed in each accident;

(c) whether there were any cases whose dead bodies were not recognised and claims for compensation have not been filed;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the claims of compensation have been settled;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(h) by what time such claims are likely to be settled?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). 4 applications for claims for compensation have been filed in the Railway Claims Tribunal Bench at Patna in respect of fire accident of 383 UP Mokama—Danapur passenger train dated 16.4.90. There is no Malda Station in Maharashtra.

(c) and (d). 15 dead passengers could not be identified.

(e) to (h). The award of compensation in the claims cases will be given by the Railway Claims Tribunal Bench, Patna which is a Judicial body. Press notification for preferring claims has already been made. In 96 cases the next of kin of the dead and injured passengers have also collected ex-gratia assistance of Rs. 5,21,500.

Survey for setting up of Power Projects in Capital

8846. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up several power projects in the capital keeping in view the growing demand;