

[*Translation*]

Superfast Train Between Gondia and Nagpur

6304. DR. KHUSHAL PARASHRAM BOPCHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal to introduce a superfast train like Shatabadi Express between Nagpur and Howrah which has been shelved;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

(c) whether there is a proposal to introduce an alternative superfast train between Gonda and Nagpur for the convenience of daily commuters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (d). Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

Wind Energy Cell in Hilly Areas

6308. SHRI M.S. PAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a wind energy cell in the hilly areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government have explored the possibility of converting wind energy into other forms of energy?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A number of demonstration projects have been undertaken in various parts of the country, including hilly areas of States such as Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Jammu & Kashmir and Andhra Pradesh, for converting wind energy into mechanical energy for water pumping and electrical energy for power generation.

Targets of Coal production in Bihar Coal Mines

6309. SHRI DASAI CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal production in Bihar collieries has fallen short of target fixed for 1988-89 and 1989-90; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). Bharat Coking Coal Limited, Central Coalfields Limited and partially Eastern Coalfields Limited are operating mines in the State of Bihar. Coal production from Bihar coalfields in these companies during the last two years was as under: