

fourth unit, revised cost estimates are awaited from the Karnataka Power Corporation and availability of coal has to be tied up.

**SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER :** I know that the third unit has been approved by the Planning Commission.

I have only said that the first unit has been completed.

May I know from the Government whether it is aware when the first unit will be commissioned. The hon. Minister knows very well that there is acute power shortage in the State of Karnataka to the extent of nearly 75-80%. While thanking the Government for approving the third unit by the Planning Commission, may I know whether they will also approve of the 4th unit so that all the Units can be taken up immediately?

*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND :** I am happy to inform the House that the first unit will be commissioned within a couple of days, most probably by the end of this month or in the first week of next month.

The second unit is also expected to be commissioned by April, 1986.

The third unit has been cleared by the Planning Commission.

As regards the fourth unit, there has been some problem in tying up the availability of coal.

**SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER :** As I said already, the hon. Minister is also aware of the acute shortage. I would suggest that the 4th Unit should be started immediately. Even if we get all the units completed, it will not suffice us. So, please expedite it.

**SHRI B. SHANKARANAND :** I will be very much more happy than the hon. Member if the problem of coal is solved with the cooperation of the Governments concerned, specially the Andhra Pradesh Government. I hope the fourth unit also will be processed in due course.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTION

*[English]*

### Railway Accident During 1984

\*223. **DR. A.K. PATEL :**

**SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) number of railway accidents during the year 1984 ;

(b) number of persons killed and injured therein ;

(c) total loss suffered by railways as a result thereof ;

(d) total amount of compensation paid during the above period and the number of cases in respect of which the amount of compensation has not been paid or not paid fully ;

(e) whether any proposal to ensure payment of the amount of compensation within a prescribed period from the day of the accident is under consideration of the Government ;

(f) if so, details thereof ; and

(g) if not, the reasons then for ?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) :** (a) There were 772 train accidents during the year 1984.

(b) 345 persons lost their lives and 732 persons were injured in these accidents.

(c) The loss suffered by Railways as a result of these accidents has been estimated as Rs. 7.82 crores.

(d) Out of 361 claims filed under the provisions of the Indian Railways Act, 1980 by the claimants pertaining to train accident that occurred during 1984 125 claims have so far been settled and a sum of Rs. 71.11 lakhs has been paid as compensation to the dependents of those killed and to the injured persons during January, 1984 to December, 1984 which includes compensation in respect of accidents that occurred earlier also. The remaining 236 claim applications

are pending adjudication in the various Courts of ad hoc/ex officio Claims Commissioners.

(e) to (g). The following measures have been taken to out down delays in the settlement of accident claim which come under the purview of Indian Railways Act, 1890 :

- (i) Railway Accidents (Compensation) Rules, 1950 have been amended making it obligatory on part of the railway administration concerned to appoint an ad hoc Claims Commissioner within two months from the date of accident.
- (ii) Instructions have also been issued to the Zonal Railways to appoint more than one ad hoc Claims Commissioner in accidents involving 100 or more Casualties/Claims.
- (iii) State-wise standing panels of judges willing to be posted as ad hoc Claims Commissioners are being formed.
- (iv) Restrictions on the appointment of retired judicial officers as ad hoc Claims Commissioners have been removed.
- (v) The General Managers of the Zonal Railways have been delegated powers to create posts in connection with settlement of accident claims.

It is not feasible to fix any time limit for the payment of compensation. The matter rests with the Claims Commissioners.

#### **Construction of Howrah-Amta B.G. Line**

\*226. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the progress made so far in constructing the Howrah-Amta broad gauge railway line;
- (b) when the Howrah-Amta line is likely to be completed;

(c) the present position of construction of broad gauge line between Amta and Sheakhala;

(d) when this work is likely to be completed; and

(e) whether Government will expedite work on these lines to end, the sufferings of thousands of people in Howrah and Hooghly districts ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) The construction of Phase-I of Howrah-Amta Broad Gauge line i.e. from Santragachi to Bargachia (24 Kms) has already been completed and opened to traffic in 1984.

(b) to (e). Further extension of Broad Gauge line to Amta would depend on the availability of resources. There is no proposal to construct a line between Amta and Sheakhala.

#### **Steps To Improve Standard of Health Education**

\*229. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO  
SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government are aware of the very low standard of Health Education in the country; and
- (b) if so, what steps Government contemplate to make improvements in this regards ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) and (b). The level of Health Education in the community is closely related to the level of literacy. Education of the people about health matters is a continuing process. In order to accelerate this process Government is taking various measures. Health Education is being imparted in schools and colleges; various channels of communication are being used to disseminate information for promotion of health. Health Education has also been integrated in the various health Programmes.