

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Conversion of Rewari-Bhatinda Line

*470. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert the metre gauge section of Rewari-Bhatinda railway line into broad gauge; and

(b) if so, by what time it will be completed?

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

(b) Does not arise.

National Transport Policy Committee

*474. SHRI R. P. DAS: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether in view of the recommendation of the National Transport Policy Committee, electrification of the left-out sections of the Sealdah and Howrah Divisions of the Eastern Railway will be taken up expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): No, Sir.

Financial Assistance to States which are Backward in Communication

*475. SHRI RASA BEHARI BEHRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) *per capita* extent of National Highways in different States; and

(b) have the Government taken any steps to augment financial assistance to those States which are backward in communication?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) The Government of India are constitutionally responsible for the National Highways. Funds for the National Highways are not given on any area or regional basis. Several factors such as the basic deficiencies existing in a National Highway route, the need and urgency for making up those deficiencies and further needs for improvements as determined by traffic intensities, geographic/climatic/environmental conditions, works in progress, requirements of funds projected by the States, their admissibility and overall availability of resources govern the allotment of funds to the States.

Statement

INFORMATION REGARDING THE EXTENT OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS STATEWISE WITH REFERENCE TO POPULATION

Sl. No.	Name of State	Length of N.H. in Km.	Population in lakhs (based on 1971 Census)	Length of N.H. in Km. per lakh population
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2299	435.0	5.29
2.	Assam	1468	146.3	10.03
3.	Bihar	2117	563.5	3.76
4.	Chandigarh	24	2.6	9.23
5.	Delhi	72	40.7	1.77
6.	Goa	229	8.6	26.63
7.	Gujarat	1398	267.0	5.24
8.	Haryana	681	100.4	6.78
9.	Himachal Pradesh	630	34.6	18.21
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	641	40.2	13.87
11.	Karnataka	1996	293.0	6.81
12.	Kerala	784	213.5	3.67
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2670	416.5	6.41
14.	Maharashtra	2861	504.1	5.68
15.	Manipur	211	10.7	19.72
16.	Meghalaya	345	10.1	44.15
17.	Nagaland	113	5.2	21.73
18.	Orissa	1649	219.4	7.52
19.	Punjab	913	135.5	6.74
20.	Rajasthan	2157	257.6	8.37
21.	Sikkim	62	2.1	29.52
22.	Tamil Nadu	1749	412.2	4.25
23.	Tripura	200	15.6	12.82
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2328	883.4	2.63
25.	West Bengal	1419	443.1	3.20
26.	Other Union Territories	—	14.9	—
		29016	5481.6	5.29