

Sethi, Mr. Martand Singh, Dr. B. Venkataraman, Mr. Mohammad Yunus and Mr. B. Ramadorai, Director-General in India..

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : And for US ?

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL : There are the patrons who are Mrs. Margaret Thatcher from the British side and from our side, our Prime Minister. Sir Michael Walker is the Chairman. The Members are Rt. Hon. Lord Aldington.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : The names are not necessary. Most of them are known.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : नाम इनको लिखकर भेज दीजिएगा ।

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : I want to know about the U.S. Committee.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL : About the U.S. Committee, we have not finalised.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : Would you consider having Members of Parliament on it.

(Interruption)*

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL : We will have to see.

Madurai-Bodinayakanur-Kottayam B.G. Link Project

***577. SHRI P.K. KODIYAN :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) at what stage is the Madurai-Bodinayakanur-Kottayam B.G. link project; and

(b) the reason for not taking any concrete steps for starting work on this project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) and (b) The survey for conversion of Madurai-Bodinayakanur section from Metre Gauge to Broad Gauge and construction of a new B.G. line between Bodinayakanur to Cochin is in progress and is expected to be completed sometime in 1984. Cochin-Kottayam are already connected by B.G. line.

SHRI P.K. KODIYAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Statement says that survey on this project is in progress and it will be completed some time in 1984. Sir, this is a long pending project and the survey had started long back. I want to know why there is enormous delay in completing this survey. When did the actual survey work start ?

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Sir, actually this was approved in 1982 at an estimated cost of Rs. 3 lakhs. In 1984-85 we have provided about Rs. 30,000. Now, the survey report is expected to be finalised this year. That indicates that the work is almost complete.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : What about the execution of project ?

SHRI P.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF : That depends upon the feasibility.

SHRI C.K. KODIYAN : If the work is almost complete, then the hon. Minister should be able to tell us the exact date on which this survey report will be made available to the Government. I want to know what will be the exact date of completing the survey and Government taking up this project for actual execution.

SHRI P.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF : When I said the finalisation of this survey work is going to be this year, that is, the end of this year. So far as taking up further action is concerned, it depends on the Planning Commission and the availability of resources.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR : Sir, so far as the railway projects in Tamil Nadu are concerned, for the last 36 years they have been neglected. Regarding B.G. line, new tracks, doubling, metro of Madras....

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Mayathevar, does this concern this question ?

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR : This is my constituency matter, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : There is no question of your constituency. Does it relate to this question ?

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR : Yes, I am coming to the question.

MR. SPEAKER : It has got to be connected by rail, that I can agree. But it still is not connected with this.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR : What I want to impress upon the House and the Hon. Speaker and the Government is that we are very much afraid of the railway lines....

MR. SPEAKER : You give me a second question, I will have it answered, but not like this. He cannot be asked to do it. Now, Question No. 578—Shri Brajamohan Mohanty.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR : Sir, I am asking the question. I want to know from the hon. Minister....

MR. SPEAKER : Now, you can't. You give a different question for a different purpose and I will have it answered.

SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF : Sir, I will answer this question. The interest of Tamil Nadu is safe in the hands of the Government.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR : Sir, every time the Railway Minister is shifting the burden on the Planning Commission. I want to know whether it will be economically viable....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If you want a rail...

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR : Everything is shifted in planning...

MR. SPEAKER : This is logic.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR : Will this be viable ? It cannot be viable... *(Interruptions)*. This has been pending since British times.

MR. SPEAKER : Who do you not listen ? You want a rail so that train can run on it.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR : I want now.

MR. SPEAKER : Do not get yourself derailed.

Developmental Projects in Nepal and Bhutan

*578. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) how many development projects are being undertaken by Government of India in Nepal and Bhutan;

(b) details of the projects completed and also on-going projects;

(c) the total amount of financial assistance given to both the countries; and

(d) whether any trade negotiations with Bhutan and Nepal are going on and if so, outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b) A statement showing the projects already completed and those under construction is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Till 1982-83 grant-in-aid assistance under the Indian aid programme to Nepal amounted to Rs. 206.25 crores. In the financial year 1983-84 grant assistance is expected to be around Rs. 15 crores.

In the case of Bhutan, between 1960 and 1984 financial assistance amounted to Rs. 415 crores.

(d) No, Sir.