

in the near future is being looked into by the Planning Commission.

Slow Speed of Passenger Trains on Trunk Routes

*213. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the slow speed of the passenger trains even on the Trunk Routes; and

(b) the average time taken in reaching a distance of 150 K.M. by the passenger trains on the Trunk Routes;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the speed of these trains?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (c). Sir, a sample analysis of running time of certain trunk route passenger trains has revealed that the Passenger trains on the Broad Gauge trunk routes cover a distance of 150 Kms. approximately in 5 hrs. and 45 Mts. and on the Metro Gauge in 6½ hours. The average speed of Passenger trains is necessarily low as compared to that of Mail/Express trains primarily due to their all-stopping character. However, at the time of revision of each Time Table, schedules of Passenger trains including those on the trunk routes are reviewed and they are speeded up to the extent feasible.

Appeal for Construction of Double Line in Sealdah-Bangaon Section (Eastern Railway)

*215. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received by the Railway Administration to make a provision for double line on the Sealdah-Bangaon section

of Eastern Railway for the convenience of passengers;

(b) if not, whether the Ministry is aware of the problem already; and

(c) the decision taken by the Ministry in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) to (c). Representations have been received for doubling of the Sealdah Bangaon section. Sealdah to Dum Dum is already a quadruple line section. A techno-economic survey for doubling the portion between Dum Dum and Barasat (15.2 km) has been carried out and the survey report is under consideration.

Allegedly Bad Management at Sindri

*216. SHRI CHANDRA SHAILANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated the 5th January, 1973 under the caption "Bad Management is Sindri's Woe";

(b) whether Government have conducted any enquiry into the allegations made therein; and

(c) if so, the main findings?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The matters raised in the news item are under examination in consultation with the Fertilizer Corporation of India.

लोक सभा और विधान सभाओं के लिए निर्वाचनों में अनुपाती प्रतिनिधित्व की प्रक्रिया अपनाना

*217. श्री शिव कुमार शास्त्री : क्या विधि, न्याय, और कृषि मंत्रालयों की कृपा करके यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि