

गया-रांची से नई रेलवे लाइन बिछाने के बारे में कोई योजना है ;

(ख) क्या इसके लिये सरकार ने कोई सर्वेक्षण किया है ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार ने हजारीबाग जिले में, जिसके विकास में रेलवे लाइनों के अभाव के कारण बाधा पड़ी है, रेलवे लाइन बिछाने के कार्य में कोई प्रगति की है ?

रेल मन्त्री (श्री हनुमंतया) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) जी हा । इस लाइन के लिए 1946-47 में इंजीनियरी और यातायात सर्वेक्षण किए गये थे जिन से मालूम हुआ था कि इस लाइन के निर्माण का कोई औचित्य नहीं है ।

(ग) रेलवे का विकास कार्यक्रम किसी राज्य अथवा क्षेत्र के आधार पर नहीं बल्कि राष्ट्रीय हित में समग्र विकास के आधार पर किया जाता है । हाल में बिहार के हजारी बाग जिले में कोई नयी रेलवे लाइन नहीं बनायी गयी है ।

Extension of Railway Lines from Sevalia to Balasinor-Virpur-Lunawada (Western Railway)

968. SHRI D. D. DESAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether the authorities had surveyed extension of Western Railway line from Sevalia to Balasinor-Virpur-Lunawada and beyond into Sabarkanta in view of its large agricultural and mineral potentialities ; and

(b) if so, the efforts being made by Government to provide Railway facilities to the above backward areas ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) (SHRI HANUMAN-THAIYA) : (a) No.

(b) Due to paucity of funds and inadequate traffic justification, the proposal for construction of any new railway line in this area will not merit consideration during the Fourth Five Year Plan period.

Speed of Trains in Gujarat

969. SHRI D. D. DESAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) be pleased to state when present obsolete alignments of tracks will be corrected to ensure an average 60 miles per hour speed of Railway trains operating in Gujarat ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) (SHRI HANUMAN-THAIYA) : Speed of 60 m.p.h. is at present permitted only on B. G. trunk routes and main lines. There are no obsolete alignment on such B. G. sections in Gujarat, requiring correction for permitting a speed of 60 m.p.h. On B. G. branch lines as also on Metre Gauge and Narrow Gauge lines, the speeds are necessarily lower.

Restoration of Timings of Trains Passing Through South Gujarat

970. SHRI D. D. DESAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) be pleased to state when the timings of trains passing through South Gujarat, which were extended by a couple of hours after Narmada and Tapti floods, will be restored and the great hardships and inordinate delays to general public remedied ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRI) (SHRI HANUMAN-THAIYA) : To the extent feasible, the extra time provided by trains on Bombay-Baroda section in the wake of floods/breaches last year, has already been curtailed. The engineering allowance of 155 minutes each in the Down and Up directions provided in October, 1970 was reduced to 135 minutes from 18-1-1971 and further to 118 minutes from 1-4-1971. In the context of works in progress on the route for electrification of Virar-Sabarmati Section further curtailment of extra engineering time will be possible after completion of the electrification works.

Extension of Embankments of River Kamla in Bihar beyond Jaf Nagar to Sispani in Nepal

971. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER (SINCHAI AUR VIDYUT MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an agreement with the Government of Nepal for extending the