

[*Translation*]

Lalitpur-Singrauli Railway Line

6. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey for constructing Lalitpur-Singrauli railway line;

(b) if so, the time by which this work is likely to be taken up and completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A fresh survey for a new BG line between Lalitpur and Singrauli via Khajuraho, Satna and Sidhi (excluding Stana-Rewa) and Mahoba- Khajuraho, approved in 1989-90 has been taken up. The survey is likely to be completed by June 1992.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Passenger Train between Tatanagar and Dhanbad

7. SHRI A.K. ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start a direct passenger train between Tatanagar and Dhanbad in view of the public demand; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Presently not feasible due to opera-

tional and resource constraints.

[*Translation*]

Group Formation of SSI Units

8. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to form a group of small scale industrial units;

(b) whether by forming a group of small scale industrial units a particular product manufactured by these small scale units could be sold under a particular brand; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO RURAL INDUSTRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) The Government is not aware of any new proposal regarding formation of group of small scale industrial units. However, NSIC has already adopted a consortia approach in marketing the products of small scale industries by clubbing the capacities and capabilities of SSIs producing similarly products and then market the products through tenders and other normal channels to Govt. departments and other needy sectors. This concept has been tried in the case of hand-made paper, stationery, Tapioca Starch, Hosiery, Fans, GLS Lamps, TVs. etc.

(b) By forming a group of small scale units of similar product lines into a consortia, the product can be marketed under a common brand name.

(c) NSIC has rendered the marketing assistance for Fans, GLS Lamps, in the Eastern Region by marketing the products on NIC branch name in the Eastern Sector

and handmade paper tapioca Starch, TVs. in the Southern sector.

[English]

IB Thermal Power Plant

9. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to shift the site of the IB thermal power plant in Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). IB Valley Thermal Power Project, comprising four units of 210 MW, was sanctioned by the Planning Commission in April, 1987 for implementation in the State Sector. The units 1&2 are under implementation. No proposal has been received from the State authorities to shift the site of the project.

Programme on Improved Chulhas

10. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKATA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of improved chulhas installed since the national programme on improved chulhas was launched; and

(b) the target fixed for installation of chulhas in the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Imp.oved Chulha Programme was launched in December, 1983 and since then about 84 lakhs improved chulhas have been installed all over

the country upto the end of March, 1990.

(b) The target for the year 1990-91 is 18.27 lakh improved chulhas.

[Translation]

Bridge over Ganga from Pahleja to Digha

11. SHRI LALBABOO RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for the construction of a railway bridge over Ganga river from Pahleja to Digha (Bihar) for linking North Bihar with Patna is pending since two decades;

(b) whether Government propose to construct this bridge in the near future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c). An Engineering-cum-Traffic survey for a railway bridge across river Ganga near Patna has been taken up. Further action on the project will depend upon the results of the survey and availability of resources.

[English]

Water Coolers in Trains in Kerala

12. SHRI A. VJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to install water coolers in any of the trains in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?