

Construction of broad gauge line between Kapadvanj and Modasa

5774. SHRI AHMED MOHM-EDBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the year 1993-94 a token provision of Rs. 1000 crores was made by Railways for the construction of BG line between Kapadvanj and Modasa in Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether State Government again requested the Union Government on 13th October, 1993 for sufficient funds to complete the above conversion of BG line;

(c) whether Union Government had informed the State Government on 6th December, 1993 that when adequate resources become available the project will be undertaken;

(d) if so, whether Union Government had decided to undertake this project during 1994-95;

(e) if so, by when it would be completed; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) A token provision of Rs. 1000/- crores had been made.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Constraint of resources.

गांधीधाम भुज रेल लाइन का पूरा किया जाना

5775. श्री अनन्त राय देवशंकर दवे : क्या रेल मंत्री महोदय बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गांधीधाम-भुज रेल लाइन का

आमान परिवर्तन करने की दिशा में अब तक कितनी प्रगति हुई है;

(ख) इस परियोजना के लिये कुल कितनी धनराशि नियत की गई है; और

(ग) उक्त परियोजना कब तक पूरी हो जायेगी ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी० के० जाफर शरीफ):

(क) यह स्वीकृत कार्य नहीं है।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Unigauge Conversion of Rail Lines in Assam

5776. SHRI B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to undertake conversion of metre gauge tracks into broadgauge beyond Lumding towards Dibrugarh in Upper Assam during 1994-95;

(b) whether Government also propose to convert metre gauge tracks into broad gauge beyond Kumarghat in Tripura and Jiribam in Manipur during 1994-95; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The section is not proposed to be converted, due to the prohibitive cost of conversion in the difficult terrain, which would render the project unviable.

Extension of Broad Gauge Railway Line from Jogigopa to Mizoram

5777. SHRI B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some representations or the extension of the broad-gauge

line from Jogigopa to Barak Valley in Assam upto Tripura, Manipur and Mizoram by a new alignment along the southern part of Meghalaya have been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to take any action on these representations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Some representations have been received from Members of Parliament and State Government for construction of a new BG line from Jogigopa to Silchar.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A survey for a new BG line from Jogigopa Bridge to Silchar (approximately 200 kms.) has been included in the Railway Budget for 1994-95.

Modernisation of Railway Telecom Network

5778. **SHRI SURESH KALMADI:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Railways have decided to modernise its telecom network along the electrified routes;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposed modernisation; and

(c) by when entire work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Indian Railways are modernising its telecom. network along the electrified routes. Overhead

telecom. circuits are transferred on to the more reliable underground cable system. This also enables provision of additional telecom. circuits. Railway Electrification is a continuous process and the present work load is likely to be completed by March, '98, subject to availability of resources.

Interaction for better railway services

5779. **SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chairman, Railway Board has urged for better interaction between the road and railway transporters to provide better and more efficient services to the people;

(b) if so, whether a seminar on management and policy studies was held at New Delhi to discuss various improvements in rail services;

(c) if so, the details of the discussions held in the seminar; and

(d) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) An International seminar was organised under the aegis of International Union of Railways at New Delhi in Jan. '94. The main theme was "Importance of the Railways in the National Economy". During this Seminar, Chairman, Railway Board in his keynote address called for better interaction between Road and Rail transport to improve efficiency, customer service and optimise asset utilisation as some of the strategies.

(c) Discussions at this International Seminar focussed on the importance of Railways in the economy of nations. Various strategies for improving the performance of the Railways were discussed. Cooperation