ग्राधिक विकास का कर्यक्रम है, जहां तक उनकी एजकेशन में डिवेलपमेंट का सवाल है, सरकार इसके लिए कत संकल्प है ग्रगर माननीय सदस्य को हम विश्वास दिलान च हते हैं कि उनकी सोशो-इकनोंमिक ग्रौर एजूकेशनल डिवेलपमेंट के लिए हमने बहुत सारी योजन यें बनाई हैं, ग्रौर उसका प्रति माह भानि-द्रिंग हम कर रहे हैं ग्रौर मानिद्रिंग ही नहीं कर रहे हैं बिल्फ, उसका रिजल्ट भी हमको ग्राने लगा है।

इसलिए, माननीय सदस्य को हम विश्वास दिलाना चाहते हैं कि जिजवेंगन के संबंध में जाननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा कि यह सदन के ऊपर निर्भर है। लेकिन उसके ग्रलावा जो माइनार्टी के ग्रिधकार ग्रीर वैलफेयर का सामला है, उसके लिए हम कटिबद्ध हैं।

श्री सभापति : वह कटिबद्ध हैं। उन्होंने ग्रापकी मदद करने के लिए कमर कस ली है।

मौलाना श्रौबेदुःला खान श्राजमी: पूरे सदन के जरिए माइनार्टी रिजर्वेणन की बात जब हो रही है, तो सदन में एक खूली चर्चा श्राप करवा दीजिए ताकि सारी पार्टियों से चर्चा करने के बाद ईस मसले को तय किया जा सके।

डा० म्रबरार म्रहमद खान सर, ईस पर म्राधे दिन की चर्चा करवा दीजिए। भ्री सभापति भ्राप लिख कर दीजिए।

मौलाना श्रीबेदुःला खान श्राजमी : मैं चाहूंगा कि प्रधान मंत्री जी की इच्छा को हाऊस में पूरा किया जाय।

B.G. Line between Guwahati to Lumding in N.F. Railway

*323. SHRI DAVID LEDGER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have any proposal to take up the expansion work of the Broad Gauge line from Guwahati to Lumding in the North Frontier Railway during the current year;
- (b) if so, what are the details thereof; and
 - (c) if not, the reasons, therefor?

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

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Due to constraint of resources and heavy commitments on hand for gauge conversions.

SHRI DAVID LEDGER: I must say that the answer given by the hon. Minister will once again disappoint the people of Assam and the North-East. It is needless to emphasise that one of the main reasons for the slow pace of industrialisation in Assam and in North-Eastern States is the transport bottleneck and lack of proper communication system. Sir, whatever industry is there in Assam-oil, coal or private sector-is all situated in upper Assam. It is, therefore, imperative that upper Assam be connected with the broad gauge line. This will not only benefit Assam but it will also benefit the immediate neighbouring States like Arunachal and Nagaland. So will the Minister kindly consider

35

inclusion of this project, this construction of broad-gauge line, from Guwahati to Lumding, in the current year on priority basis?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: It is true that there has been a certain delay in pursuing this particular project. The proposal was submitted in 1981-82. While the final survey was being done in 1984-85, the State Government suggested that instead of the original route that was being discussed, we should consider this line being laid via Nagaon Jorhat Sibsagar. Thereafter, the survey report became available. The major constraint for not taking a decision on this has been the colossal amount of money that is involved. So, what has been thought of is to upgrade the existing metre gauge line in the short run even while we are working on the ideas of the broad-gauge line subject to availability of resources.

[The Deputy Chairman in the Chair.]

SHRI DAVID LEDGER: A meeting of the North-Eastern Council was held in Shillong three months ago. representatives of the North-Eastern Frontier Railway gave the impression that the N.F. Railway had a proposal construct the broadgauge line between Guwahati and Lumding. Can the Minister throw some light on this?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I am not saying that the proposal is not there. That is why I said that because of the needs of that region, we intend to upgrade the metre-gauge in short run and that work is on at this moment. This proposal has been under consideration. The proposal has not been abandoned.

SHRI JOHN \mathbf{F} FERNANDES: Madam, if you permit me, I will go from North-East to South-West. We are very grateful to our new Minister, Mr. Fernandes, for initiating the Konkan Railway. But we still have a problem of metre-gauge to broad-gauge conversion line from Marmugao Harbour to Miraj. This line will have

no bearing on the Konkan Railway line. It is running from the West to East and the Konkan line is running from North to South. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will consider conversion of this line into broad-gauge to save the port of Marmugao because all modern trade is done by the container system and the container system is possible only on broad-gauge.

to Questions

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: does not arise out of this question.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Put another fresh notice.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: However, if the hon. Member wishes to have a reply, all that I can say is that just now we are concentrating on the Konkan Railway. So far as gauge conversion from Goa to Miraj and further down is concerned, that will take a little time.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRA-VARTY: Madam, it is unfortunate and unbecoming that the hon. Minister has got the least concern for the development of transport system is the North Eastern region. Madam, for your information, I have to say that in the Development Council last National meeting held in Assam where all the Chief Minister of the North-Eastern region were present, the proposal was accepted that the broad-gauge line will be extended up to Tinsukia. We, the North-Eastern people, are accustomed to the negative answers given by the previous Government.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Leave one minute for the Minister to answer.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRA-VARTY: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether, before giving a negative answer, he will take into consideration that if the broadis not extended, it will gauge line increase the paucity of all the necessary commodities. So, I would like to

38

know whether he is going to give a second thought to it and extend it in the near future and not in the far-off future.

12.00 Noon

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: have said that we are considering this particular project. I have only said that we are upgrading the metre-gauge at this moment while keeping this broad-gauge for implementation some point οf time. And I would like to tell the hon. Member that is so far as the North East is concerned, we have projects that have been recommended by the Working Group set up by the Planning Commission for consideration which would at the present costs run into about Rs. 1500 crores. is only a question of availability of resources, how much of the money is to be expanded and in which part of the country. And I would also like to make the one point when the hon. Member says...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is almost over.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I will make only one last point. The hon. Member says that the North-East has been neglected. Well. I would like to make the point that against the national average of 18.86 per cent of route-kilometre per thousand kilometres of area, Assam has 30.38 which puts it in the fourth position from the top. And in so far as route-kilometre per lakh of population is concerned, against the national average of 9.05, Assam has 11.98 which again puts it at fourth from the top. Therefore, it is not right to say that there has been neglect of the region while I do concede that... (Interruptions)... it is necessary to put a lot more money in the region. (Interruptions)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think, now the train has crossed the platform.

Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*324. [Transferred to the 4th September, 1990]

Long-term Housing Plan for Delhi

*325. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOP-MENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have drawn up any long-term plan to provide plots houses to every person living in Delhi;
- (b) if so, by when it is likely to be implemented; and
- (c) the steps taken so far to develop the plots and to build the houses in Delhi to implement the above plan?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Delhi administration has taken up the formulation of a plan to augment housing for inclusion in the Eight Five Year Plan and implementation during the Plan period.

(c) Steps taken so far include acquisition and development of land, construction of dwelling units by DDA, allotment of plots to individuals, increased allocation of land to housing cooperative societies, and modifications in the Master Plan of Delhi-2001 to facilitate augmentation of housing.

Allotment of Rice to Madhya Pradesh

*326. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have reduced the allotment of rice to Madhya Pradesh;
 - (b) if so, the reasons thereof;
- (c) the monthly requirement of rice in Madhya Pradesh and the