

(d) No, Sir.

Fire in shed of New Delhi Railway goods yard

1410. SHRI PARVATHANENI UP-
ENDRA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that goods worth several lakhs of rupees were destroyed in a fire which broke out in a shed of the New Delhi Railway goods yard in Ajmeri Gate on 25th May, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details of the goods damaged and the cause of the fire;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there was delay in the arrival of the fire fighting personnel to extinguish the fire, if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is also a fact that fire have occurred earlier also at this place which is a congested locality; and

(e) what action is proposed to be taken by Government to prevent occurrence of fire, at this place and measure for controlling them quickly?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT
(SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Four wagons containing papers, black gram and oil cakes and shed No. 3 of the goods shed were partially damaged in this fire. Enquiry conducted into the incident has revealed that the fire was caused due to inadvertent throwing of live match stick/burning bidi/cigarette butt by some passer-by.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Railway staff working in this area have been instructed to be more alert and vigilant and strictly follow all preventive measures to prevent recurrence of such fires in future. Following measures have been specifically ordered:

(i) Proper stacking and covering of goods in the shed is being ensured.

(ii) Steam locomotives are being replaced by Diesel Engines for shunting purposes.

(iii) To refresh the knowledge of the employees in first-aid fire fighting techniques, intensive training is proposed to be imparted.

(iv) Emphasis is also being laid on good house keeping and maintenance of cleanliness in Goods shed.

(v) More 'No Smoking' sign boards are being displayed in this area.

Excavation work in Assam

1411. SHRI NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has taken up any excavation work in Assam;

(b) whether the Archaeological Survey of India deputed some experts to visit the ancient monuments of Assam;

(c) whether it is a fact that officials of the Archaeological Survey of India could not visit the Ambari Site of excavation till this date;

(d) whether it is the practice with the ASI to send experts to examine the monuments in Assam at regular intervals;

(e) if so, what is the frequency of such visits; and

(f) whether there is any proposal to preserve the Hajjarvarman's rock-inscription of the 9th Century?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The Archaeological Survey of India has participated in excavation work at Ambari during 1970-71 along with the Department of Anthropology, Gauhati University, State Department of Archaeology, Assam and the Deccan College, Pune.

(b) The officers of the Archaeological Survey of India have been inspecting Centrally protected monuments in Assam periodically.

(c) No, Sir. Director General and other officer of the Archaeological Survey of India have visited the excavation site at Ambari.

(d) and (e) Experts of the Archaeological Survey of India do inspect the monuments in Assam periodically and as and when necessary.

(f) Yes, Sir.

Manmad-Parali-Vajjnath Rail Line

1412. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount actually spent till now on the construction of the Manmad-Parali-Vajjnath rail line;

(b) what is the extent of work completed so far; and

(c) by when the remaining portion is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) Rs. 10.22 crores.

(b) work is in progress between Manmad and Aurangabad and its progress is 35 per cent.

(c) Its completion will depend on availability of the resources in the coming years.

Introduction of New aircraft in Delhi-Moscow route

1413. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for introducing Boeing 747 or Air Bus in the Delhi Moscow route of Air India; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. Air India proposes to introduce Airbus A310 aircraft on the India-USSR route effective September 16, 1986.

(b) The flights will be operated on a twice weekly basis on the route Bombay-Delhi-Moscow-Delhi-Bombay on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Second bridge over Krishna River at Vijayawada

1414. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has so far been made in regard to the construction of a second bridge over Krishna river at Vijaywada; and

(b) by when the construction work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) 80 per cent of the work has been completed so far.

(b) The work is targetted to be completed by March, 1987.

Bridge on river Kesari on National Highway

1415. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made so far in regard to the repairing of a bridge on Kesari river on the National Highway which falls between Nandigama and Vijaywada; and

(b) by when the bridge is likely to be opened for traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANS-