

Establishment of Railway Division at Gulbarga

1288. SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to establish a new railway division at Gulbarga in Karnataka State; and

(b) if so, by when the proposed railway division is going to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Gauge conversion in Gujarat

1289. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why Gujarat is not getting priority in various railway projects;

(b) whether he is aware about slow speed and few projects of gauge conversion in Gujarat;

(c) whether he would take up the work of Bhildi-Samkhyali gauge conversion; and

(d) what is the scope for double container arrangement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. The projects in Gujarat are being progressed as per the priority and availability of resources.

(b) Under 'Project Unigauge' a number of gauge conversion projects have been taken up and in all, about 1200 kms of lines including main routes have already been converted to broad gauge since April, 1992. The ongoing works are progressing satisfactorily as per the resource availability.

(c) Gauge conversion of Bhildi-Samakhyali section has already been completed in March, 2006.