

एक अनुमोदित कार्य है और यह काम चल रहा है। संसाधनों की स्थिति अत्यधिक कठिन होने के बावजूद अधिकतम संभव सीमा तक द्रुत गति से काम चल रहा है।

Increase in train services to Jammu Tawi

357. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is heavy rush of passengers from Jammu to other parts of the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that about one lakh pilgrims visit every month the cave shrine of Vaishnodevi in Jammu; and

(c) whether Government propose to start a day train under the name of "Vaishnodevi Express" to remove the rush?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Yes.

(c) No.

Extension of railway line from Jammu Tawi to Udhampur

358. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the progress made in the extension of railway line from Jammu Tawi to Udhampur and by when the construction of railway track and boring of tunnels will begin; and

(b) what will be the length of the railway line, number of railway stations between Jammu Tawi and Udhampur and also the number of tunnels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) Revised

final location survey is in progress. Investigation of soil strata is in hand to decide design and details of tunnels. Earth-work for railway track will be taken in hand as soon as the final location work is completed.

(b) Tentative length of the railway line from Jammu Tawi to Udhampur is 53 Kms; proposed number of stations is 5 and the number of tunnels is 12.

Uncovered platforms at Jammu Tawi

359. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that all the platforms except No. 1 on the Jammu Tawi Railway Station are open, causing great inconvenience to the incoming and outgoing passengers during the rains; and

(b) if so, by when these platforms are proposed to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) and (b) No. At Jammu Tawi Station there are two passenger platforms—one main platform, and one island platform. In addition, there is one tourist siding. Covered shelters have already been provided for adequate length on both the platforms, as also the tourist siding for the requirement of present level of traffic.

Poor catering arrangements at Jammu

360. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there are no catering arrangements on smaller stations between Jammu and Pathankot and that the catering arrangements at Jammu Railway Station are also very poor; and

(b) if so, what remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard?