

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (d) The Gandak Project, a joint venture of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh is a Second Plan Scheme, which has had time and cost over-runs and is expected to be completed in the Uttar Pradesh portion during the Sixth Plan and the Bihar portion would spill over to the Seventh Five Year Plan period. The original estimated cost of the project as approved by the Planning Commission in 1961 was Rs. 52.03 crores. The cumulative expenditure upto March, 1983 as reported by the States of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh is expected to be Rs. 326.70 crores and 89.33 crores totalling to Rs. 416 crores as against the latest updated cost of Rs. 512 crores. The reasons for delay in the project are attributable to overall constraint of resources, difficulties in land acquisition, changes in the scope of the project by way of supplementary work and timely non-availability of scarce construction materials.

Sharing of Ganga waters

355. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA:
SHRI GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH :
SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: ()
SHRI F. M. KHAN:
SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:
SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR:
SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any progress has been made towards concluding an agreement between India and Bangladesh for sharing of Ganga waters; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) The Indo-Bangladesh Memorandum of

Understanding signed by Minister of External Affairs, India and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Bangladesh, on 7th October, 1982, provides for releases for sharing of the Ganga flows available at Farakka for the next two dry seasons. It also directs the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission to complete prefeasibility studies of the two schemes proposed by India and Bangladesh for augmenting the dry weather flows at Farakka to decide upon the optimum solution within 18 months for urgent implementation.

The Joint Rivers Commission has set up a Joint Committee of Experts for undertaking the pre-feasibility studies keeping the objectives and time-frame mentioned in the Memorandum of Understanding. The sharing of the flows at Farakka from January, 1983, is being done in terms of Memorandum of Understanding.

क्यूल-साहेबगंज लूप लाइन

356. श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे की क्यूल-साहेबगंज लूप लाइन पर गाड़ियां विलम्ब से चलती हैं ;

(ख) किन कारणों से उस लाइन पर दोहरी लाइन बिछाने की योजना में काफी समय से प्रगति नहीं हो पाई है ; और

(ग) क्या सा. कार्यों को अविलम्ब अपने हाथ में लेने का विचार रखती है, यदि हां, तो कब तक ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी० के० जाफर शरीफ) : (क) क्यूल-साहेबगंज खंड पर सवारी गाड़ियां कभी-कभी विलंब से चलती हैं ।

(ख) और (ग) क्यूल-भागलपुर और भागलपुर के बीच खंड पर कहीं-कहीं दोहरी लाइन बिछाने का काम

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?