

work for the construction of the railway lines between Nirmali and Bhattiah stations (NER) has been started;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the construction of this railway line is estimated to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Two surveys have so far been conducted during 1972 and 1977 for Restoration of Nirmali-Saraigarh (Bhattiah) railway including construction of a bridge over river Kosi. Both these surveys revealed that the project would be unremunerative. The project was, therefore, not pursued.

(d) Does not arise.

Accident of goods train at Bari Brahmana, near Jammu

920. SHRI GULAM MOHI-UD-DIN SHAWL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enquiry was held as to the cause of the accident of the goods train on March 20, 1982 at Bari Brahmana, near Jammu and what is the quantum of loss suffered by the Railways and the details thereof;

(b) whether any Railway employee was found responsible, as per the enquiry report for the said accident; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to avert the recurrence of such accidents in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Yes. According to the findings of the Inquiry Committee the accident was due to failure of mechanical equipment, for which no railway staff could be held responsible. The total loss suffered has been estimated at approximately Rs. 33 lakhs due to damage to Permanent Way, Bridge, Rolling Stock and Signalling and Tele-communication equipment.

(c) In order to avoid recurrence of such accidents, the following steps have been taken recently : —

1. Ultrasonic testing of axles to detect flaws.

2. Roller bearing wagons have to be subjected to examination after 18 months.

(3. Roller bearing wagons have been segregated to form block racks,

4. Roller bearings are being examined at 21 nominated points in addition to Railway Workshops.

5. Great stress is being laid on proper upkeep of wagons.

6. Spot checks on carriage and Wagon examination are being done in order to detect any deficiency which might have been overlooked.

Construction of New Railway lines in Karnataka

921. SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received any proposal from the Government of Karnataka for the