

A Secretaries Committee constituted by an Inter Ministerial Task Force and an Integrated Purchase Advisory Committee for drugs and medicines approved the source of procurement, quantity and the rates.

(d) In view of (b) & (c) above, question does not arise.

Construction of bridge on crossing near Safedabad

†3136. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long jam at the railway crossing near Safedabad on Lucknow-Barabanki road due to heavy traffic of trains there;

(b) whether the people passing through that road have to face much difficulties due to this jam;

(c) whether his Ministry is contemplating to construct a bridge on this crossing; and

(d) if so, by when this work would start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The Level Crossing (LC) No 180-A Safedabad is a busy level crossing with traffic density of 365267 TVUS as per traffic census taken in year 2000.

(c) and (d) The work of road over bridge at Safedabad in lieu of LC No 180-A was sanctioned on cost sharing basis in 1999-2000 at a total cost of Rs 18.57 Cr. But, subsequently, State Govt. of Uttar Pradesh advised in Sept., 2001 that work is to be taken by National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. Railway approached NHAI in Jan., 2003 to take up and complete the work on priority but NHAI has not informed about any action taken so far.

Electrification of Delhi-Muzaffarnagar rail line

†3137. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan for the electrification of Delhi-Muzaffarnagar railway track;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) by when, this project is likely to be commenced?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Trade unions of Indian Railways

†3138. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the procedure for granting recognition to Trade Unions of the Indian Railways is quite transparent;

(b) what is the present number of recognized Trade Unions in the Railways;

(c) whether any procedure has been introduced for granting recognition by means of a 'Secret ballot'; and

(d) whether his Ministry has introduced a procedure of 'Secret ballot' for granting recognition to the trade unions without consulting the Ministry of Labour in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways grant recognition to Unions on the basis of rules laid down in Indian Railway Establishment Manual.

(b) At present there are 32 recognized unions on 16 zones of Indian Railways.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Container movement by private parties

3139. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) since when have private parties been allowed to move containers from ports to ICDs and vice versa;

(b) how many parties have sought permission to do this under the new policy;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.