

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

(b) Does not arise.

Time taken by Assam Mail for its journey from Gauhati to, Tinsukia

1880. SHRI ROBIN KAKATI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that a passenger from Gauhati to Tinsukia spends 16 and half hours either by the Assam Mail or by the Tinsukia Mail but he spent only 11 and half hours in 1949; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) The present journey time of Tinsukia Mail between Gauhati and Tinsukia is 16 hrs. and 35 minutes where as in 1949, the then 1 UP Mail was taking 16 hrs. and 2 minutes.

(b) The increase in journey time is due to speed restrictions on some lengths of track.

Introduction of a new train between Puri and Bombay

1881. SHRI B. C. PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any express/mail or passenger train has been recently introduced between Puri and Bombay;

(b) if not, whether Government propose to introduce an express train between Puri and Bombay; and

(c) if so, what are the details in that regard?

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

(b) No. However the through Passengers can avail of the second class sleeper through service coach running between Bombay V. T. and Bhubaneswar by 19/20 Konark and 101/102 Minar Express.

(c) Does not arise.

Economic Survey Report on the rail-cum-road bridge over Brahmaputra river at Jogighopa

1882. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the recommendations of the Economic Survey Report on RITES relating to the rail-cum-road bridge over the Brahmaputra river at Jogighopa;

(b) when the above report was submitted;

(c) whether the above recommendation have been accepted by Government; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) The main recommendation of the Techno-Economic Feasibility study Report for sitting rail & road bridges near Jogighopa in Lower Assam submitted by M/s. RITES is that a rail-cum-road bridge should be constructed at Jogighopa even though the internal rate of return is only 4.0 per cent and project is not viable.