

- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) by when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (d) New BG line from Sivok to Rangpo (50.87 km) has been entrusted to M/s IRCON for execution and work has commenced on 20.02.2010. Work is in preliminary stage and project details are being firmed up. Sivok-Rangpo new line is targeted for completion by December, 2015.

#### **Khurda-Bolangir railway line**

2257. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for shifting the Khurda-Bolangir railway line under construction for nearly two decades into the hands of RVNL; and
- (b) whether Government would give a firm revised time schedule for completion of this line which is crucial to Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Khurda Road - Bolangir new line (289 km) project was included in the Budget 1994-95. In the first phase, work has been taken up in 36 km length and is targeted for completion during 2010-11. The work is progressing as per the availability of resources. To explore alternate funding sources, Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) has been advised to conduct bankability studies.

#### **Bringing down rising prices of steel**

2258. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether bringing mines of 'iron ore' and that of "metal" under Steel Ministry would help in bringing down rising prices of steel because of better functional efficiency, thereby achieving enhancement in productivity and lowering the production cost;
- (b) if so, whether this will also give fillip to expansion of existing steel plants, especially in the private sector; and