

Raiganj and Balurghat have been carried out in the recent past. However, in order to examine the feasibility for extending the rail communication to Balurghat, a traffic survey for Eklakhi-Balurghat via Gajol rail link was carried out during 1972-73 which revealed that the project is highly unremunerative. In view of limited financial resources which are not adequate even to progress the scheme already in hand, it is not possible to take up the construction of Raiganj-Balurghat rail link at present.

E.M.U. Coaches

681. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of EMU coaches running in Howrah and Sealdah division daily, section-wise;

(b) whether all the coaches are running in time;

(c) whether all the coaches are maintained properly; and

(d) if the answer to parts (b) and (c) above be in the negative, the remedial steps so far taken by the Railway in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Sealdah division—376 coaches. Howrah division—221 Coaches.

(b) 88 per cent of the trains are running to time.

(c) Yes.

(d) The question does not arise.

Railway wagons

682. SHRI SANGDOPAL LEPCHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of rail wagons in use in the Indian railways, zone-wise; and

(b) what is the average number of wagons lying idle/stranded in a month for unloading in different sheds?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Holding of wagons in Indian Railways (Zone-wise) as on 1-6-80 is as under:

(b) The information is being collected and

Rly.	In terms of 4-Wheelers	
	M.G.	B.G.
G.R.	1447	69712.5
E.R.	..	91832.0
N.R.	10116	63835.5
N.E.	25917	1750.5
N.F.	20197	5442.3
S.R.	12998	17082.5
S.G.	12504	31681.5
S.E.	..	100559.5
W.R.	27169	35122.0
All	110348	415018.5

will be laid on the Table of the House.

Running of Calcutta-Maldah Gour Express train

683. SHRI SANGDOPAL LEPCHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for running the tri-weekly Calcutta-Maldah Gour Express train during day time instead of at night;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be done; and