

Postponement of constructions of new railway lines

252. SHRI HARI SHANKAR BHABHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposals for the construction of new railway lines in some States have been kept in abeyance;

(b) if so, what are the details of the rail lines so kept in abeyance; and

(c) what are the reasons for the postponement of their construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) to (c) Sakri-Hassanpur, Rampur-Haldwani, Howrah-Sheakhala and Chittauni-Bagaha are the four new railway lines, which could not be progressed due to limited funds and the need to expedite other on-going projects which are in advanced stages of construction. In addition to the constraint of funds, on the Chittauni-Bagaha link, the location of Gandak Bridge has also to be reviewed, on account of the change in the course of the river.

Agreements with Bangladesh

253. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of agreements or pacts which have been entered into by the Government of India with the Government of Bangladesh since the birth of Bangladesh till date;

(b) what are the details of these agreements/pacts; and

(c) whether a copy of the above agreements/pacts will be laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) to (c) The information is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of the House,

Direct bus service from resettlement colonies to Central Secretariat

254. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to link all the resettlement colonies in Delhi with the Central Secretariat by direct bus service; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) No, Sir. It is not feasible to connect all the resettlement colonies in Delhi with the Central Secretariat by direct bus service due to limitations of the fleet. A number of colonies have, however, been connected with the Central Secretariat by direct bus service while in case of others commuters can reach Central Secretariat by changing the bus at an exchange nodal terminal.

(b) Does not arise.

Improvement in the bus services to Delhi

255. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to improve bus services in the capital; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Delhi Transport Corporation, which provides bus services in the Capital, have been making constant endeavour to improve its services by better utilisation of its avail-