

RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government propose to set up Railway carriage repair workshops during this year;

(b) if so, what is the number thereof;

(c) whether the said workshops will be set up in Andhra Pradesh also; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) to (d) A scheme for setting up a New Railway Carriage Repair Workshop at Mancheswar (Orissa) on the South-Eastern Railway to meet the requirements of Eastern Region was approved and included in the Railway's Works Programme for 1977-78. The Project Report and Estimates prepared by the South-Eastern Railway for setting up the workshop were approved in June, 1978 and the construction work is in progress.

A Scheme for setting up another New Railway Carriage Repair Workshop at Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh) on the South-Central Railway to meet the requirements of Southern Region has also been approved and included in the Railway's Works Programme for 1979-80. The Project Report and Estimates prepared by the South-Central Railway for setting up this workshop are under examination.

Boundary Agreement with Bangladesh

244. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 1974 Boundary Agreement with Bangladesh has not yet been ratified by the Government of India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Government of Bangladesh have already ratified it;

(c) whether the bilateral talks on demarcation of the boundary between

the two countries have not been making any progress; and

(d) by when the agreement is likely to be ratified by the Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Prior to ratification of the 1974 Land Boundary Agreement by India, a Constitution (Amendment) Bill has to be adopted by the Parliament. Prior to drafting of this Bill, it has been considered advisable to demarcate the border so as to know precise areas of territories being ceded/acquired. The Government of Bangladesh have agreed for demarcation pending ratification of the Agreement by India and, in October 1979, a field programme for 1979-80 for demarcation etc. in Tripura and West Bengal Sectors was jointly chalked out by the Surveyors of the two sides. The demarcation work is in progress.

Control of experimental drugs

245. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that experimental drugs developed abroad are sometimes tested on unsuspecting human beings in Indian hospitals and medical research institutions;

(b) whether Government propose to consider enacting a legislation to control and regulate such tests on human beings; and

(c) whether Government propose to draw the attention of the WHO to such unethical practices and to lay down international norms for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) and (b) The import into and manufacture, sale and distribution of drugs in the country are regulated under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the Rules thereunder. Under the provi-

sions of these Rules, no experimental drugs developed abroad can be imported into the country for carrying out tests on human beings without the prior approval of the Drugs Controller (India). Such approval is not granted unless adequate evidence based on the results of studies carried out abroad on animals and human beings with the experimental drug is submitted by the intending importer to show that the drug is safe for use in human beings.

(c) No; many countries in the world including India have their own national regulations to control and regulate trials with experimental drugs on human beings so as to ensure that the drugs being tried are safe for use.

R.M.S. Coach for Bhavanagar-Mehguna route

246. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand has been made from a number of quarters to the effect that the RMS coach which is attached for Bhavanagar-Mehguna route on Bhavanagar Division on Western Railway in Gujarat be attached to Somnath Mail or Gandhigram Express and divert route of RJ-6 section from Bhavanagar-Mehguna to Bhavanagar-Ahmedabad;

(b) whether it is a fact that the D.R.M.W. Railway Bhavanagar Para has agreed to provide the said accommodation in Somnath Mail and also this issue has been decided *vide* P.M.G. Ahmedabad Stg. Memo No. 30 dated 2nd February, 1980, and DRUCC meeting minutes item No. 339 held at Bhavanagar Para on 28th December, 1979;

(c) if so, what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken by Government to fulfil the assurances and decisions; and

(d) by when the said diversion will take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF):

(a) and (b) The matter was discussed by the Local Railway authorities with the P&T authorities but hauling of postal van by Somnath Mail has not been found feasible.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Replacement of Mahuva Dhasa Railway Line

247. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when the replacement work of Mahuva-Phasa Railway line on Bhavnagar Division on Western Railway commenced and when it was completed;

(b) what were the reasons for the said replacement;

(c) how much expenditure incurred thereon and what benefits were derived therefrom;

(d) what was the running capacity per hour before the replacement and what is at present and what should be the actual running speed capacity;

(e) whether it is a fact that the running speed has not been increased due to improper maintenance even though the running capacity now is more due to the said replacement; and

(f) what action is proposed to be taken to increase the running speed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) The track on Mahuva-Dhasa section of Bhavanagar division of Western Railway was proposed to be replaced in two phases through the Works Programmes of 1963-64 and 1966-67.

One work of track renewal of 94.92 kms. consisted of two portions. The first portion from km. 0.00 to 57.12 was completed in the years 1969-70 and 1971-72. The work from km. 65.52 to 103.32=37.80 kms. was commenced in September, 1974 and completed by February, 1976.

Other work from km. 103.32 to 126.66 was completed during the years 1967-68 and 1968-69.