

Rs. 40 crores may be included in the Railway Budget:

1. Gauhati-Burnihat.
2. Dharmanagar-Kumarghat.
3. Silchar-Jiribam.
4. Balipara-Bhalukpong.
5. Amguri-Tuli.
6. Lalaghat-Bharabi.

The Planning Commission have appointed a Committee to examine these proposals and to make recommendations about the viability of the schemes, taking into account the social costs and the social benefits in each case. The decision for construction of these new lines would depend upon the recommendations of the Committee which has been allowed 8 months to finalise its report.

Alleppey-Ernakulam Railway Line

89. SHRI S. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the proposed Alleppey-Ernakulam Railway Line;

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

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the view expressed by the Kerala Industry Minister that the State Government will have to see whether the line could be constructed at the State Government's cost if the Centre's decision is delayed further, considering the necessity of the said line for the industrial development of Alleppey district; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard and what is Central Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (b) No decision has so far been taken.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Drilling for oil off the Kerala Coast

90. SHRI S. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the drilling activities for oil off the Kerala Coast were suspended recently;

(b) if so, what are the details and the results of the drilling done so far and what are the reasons for suspension of the drilling operations; and

(c) whether the drilling will be resumed after monsoon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) to (c) ONGC had drilled an exploratory well 60 Kms. north-west of Cochin during April-May 1978. This well was drilled to a depth of 1755 metres. However, as no oil or gas was found, the drilling was suspended.

Further exploration programme in the area will depend upon the interpretation of the data obtained from this well and the seismic data of the area collected earlier.

पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के भूतपूर्व महाप्रबन्धक के विरुद्ध इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय द्वारा की गई भर्त्सना

91. श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : क्या रेल मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह बात सच है कि इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय ने पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के भूतपूर्व महाप्रबन्धक श्री मिश्र के विरुद्ध मई, 1978 में एक रिट याचिका के निर्णय में भर्त्सना की, यहां तक कि उन्हें सुस्थापित अधिनियमों और नियमों की घोर अवहेलना करके कतिपय व्यक्तियों की अनियमित नियुक्ति के लिये उत्तरदायी बताया गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त निर्णय को देखते हुये सरकार ने उक्त भूतपूर्व महाप्रबन्धक के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

†[Strictures passed by the Allahabad High Court against the ex-General Manager of the North Eastern Railway

91. SHRI NAGESHWAR PRASAD SHAHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in a judgment on a writ petition, strictures were passed by the Allahabad High Court in May, 1978, against Shri Mishra, Ex-General Manager of the North Eastern Railway in as much as he has been found responsible for irregular appointments of certain persons in utter disregard of the established statutes and rules; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken against the said ex-General Manager in the light of the said judgement?]

रेल मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री शिव नारायण) : (क) उक्त न्याय निर्णय में, इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय ने श्री मिश्र के उस तरीके पर कुछ टीका-टिप्पणी की है जो उन्होंने भूतपूर्व रेल मन्त्री के तत्कालीन विशेष सहायक से प्राप्त निर्देशों के निर्वहन में अपनाया था।

(ख) इस मामले की जांच की जा रही है।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Some observations have been made by the Allahabad High Court in the said judgement about the manner in which Shri Mishra had dealt with instructions from the then Special Assistant to the former Railway Minister regarding some adhoc appointments.

(b) The matter is being examined.]

रेलगाड़ियों की छतों पर यात्रा करने वाले यात्री

92. श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : क्या रेल मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि रेलगाड़ियों की छतों पर यात्रा करने वाले बहुत सारे यात्री लखनऊ और गोंडा के बीच बुढ़वाल के पास घाघरा नदी पर बने पुल के गड़रों से टकरा कर मर जाते हैं और 14 मई, 1978 को 7 यात्रियों की जानें उस समय चली गयी जब 2 डाउन मेलगाड़ी दुर्घटनाग्रस्त हुई; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस प्रकार की दुर्घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है ?

†[Passengers travelling on the roofs of trains

92. SHRI NAGESHWAR PRASAD SHAHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of passengers travelling on the roofs of the trains die every year by colliding with the girders of the bridge over the river Ghaghara near Burhwal between Lucknow and Gonda and seven passenger lost their lives when the 2 Down Mail met with an accident on the 14th May, 1978; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to prevent such accidents?]

रेल मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री शिव नारायण) : (क) 1-4-1976 से अब तक केवल एक ऐसी घटना हुई है जिसमें गोंडा स्टेशन पर 14-5-1978 को 2 डाउन मेल की एक बोगी की छत पर दो शव पाये गये।