

बिधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री
(श्री एच० आर० गोखले : (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

^ [THE MINISTER OF LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.]

Extension of service of Jayanti Janata Express to Trivandrum

359. SHRIMATI LEELA DAMO-DARA MENON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to extend the service of New Delhi-Mangalore-Cochin Jayanti Janata Express to Trivandrum; and

(b) if so, by when the proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER in THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SAR-DAR BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) Immediately after opening of Quilon-Ernakulam Broad Gauge line, the speed on the newly laid track will be low. Extension of 131/132 Nizamud-ciin-Mangalore/Cochin Jayanti Janata Express to and from Trivandrum Central can only be considered when the speed is increased and additional maintenance facilities are developed at Trivandrum.

Allotment of cooking gas against foreign exchange

360. SHRI MAQSOOD ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to allot cooking gas connections on priority basis to persons who make

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payment in foreign currency as is done in the case of allotment of scooters; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHAMAN ANSARI): (a) and (b) At present, there is no scheme to provide Liquefied Petroleum Gas cooking gas connections on priority basis to those who are willing to make payment therefor in foreign exchange. However, a suggestion to this effect has recently been received and is under consideration.

Swadeshi drive on Railways

361. SHRI HIMMAT SINGH;
SHRI HARSH DEO MALA-
VIYA: SHRIMATI LEELA
DAMO-
DARA MENON:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Swadeshi drive was launched on the Railways in August, 1975 in pursuance of the 20-Point Economic Programme; and

(b) if so, what are the details of action taken under this programme and the results achieved so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SAR-DAR BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) In pursuance of the 20-point Economic Programme, a vigorous Swadeshi Drive was launched by the Ministry of Railways in August, 1975 to eliminate dependence on imports.

With a view to providing first hand knowledge of items being imported by the Railways to as many industrialists and entrepreneurs as possible, a mobile exhibition was organised and taken to important industrial centres in India.

The break through in Swadeshi drive on the Railways has been achieved as a result of harnessing the technological skill available in the country by the coordinated efforts of the Production Units as well as the Zonal Railways under the guidance of the highest level of management of the Ministry of Railways. During the past one year it has been possible for the three production units and Zonal Railways to take off from the import list as many as 181 items evaluated at Rs. 5.17 crores per annum.

Late running of trains after Basar Station

362. SHRI GOVINDRAO RAM-CHANDRA MHAISEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that trains running between Kachiguda and Manmad invariably run late after Basar Station; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps Government propose to take to improve their punctuality?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SAR-DAR BUNTA SINGH): (a) The punctuality performance of passenger carrying trains on Kacheguda-Manmad section during May, June and July, 1976 was 74, 75 and 86 per cent respectively.

(b) The late running is due to alarm chain pulling by staff of Vigilance Cell of Andhra Pradesh State Government on Andhra-Maharashtra border for checking rice smuggling activity. The matter has been taken up with State Government authorities by the South Central Railway and a special punctuality drive was organised in July, which has resulted in some improvement. Every endeavour is being made to keep up this improvement.

Survey for extension of Railway line from Jorhat to Sibsagar

363. SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN
SARING: SHRI NABIN
CHANDRA
BURAGOHAIN: SHRI
KRISHNA BAHADUR
CHETTRI: DR.
RAJAT KUMAR
CHAKRABARTI;

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether in view of the public demand Government propose to conduct any survey for the extension of the Furkating-Jorhat N.F. Railway line from Jorhat to Sibsagar along the National Highway?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SAR-DAR BUNTA SINGH): Due to nonavailability of adequate funds, for completing the construction of new rail links in progress/approved for being taken up for construction, it may not be possible to take up the proposed survey at present.

COB licences to M/s. May and Baker Ltd.

364. SHRI BANARSI DAS: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a COB licence was granted to M/s. May and Baker Limited first on actual production basis and subsequently on installed capacity basis;

(b) if so, whether the procedure laid down for the grant of COB licences to companies having 100 per cent foreign equity was gone through before the grant of licence to this company; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) to (c) Under the 'liberalisation policy, of 27th October, 1966,