

**Construction of Barabanki-Samastipur
Broad Gauge Line**

12. SHRI GUNA NAND THAKUR:
SHRI BHAIYA RAM MUNDA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is present stage of progress of construction of Barabanki-Samastipur broad gauge line;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a demand to extend it up to Katihar and Narkatiaganj from Samastipur; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SARDAR BUTA SINGH): (a) The over-all physical progress achieved up-to-date on this project is 38 per cent. The section from Samastipur to Muzaffarpur has already been opened to traffic.

(b) Yes.

fc) A broad gauge line exists between Samastipur and Barauni. Preliminary-Engineering-cum-Traffic surveys have been carried out for the gauge conversion of Barauni-Katihar and Samastipur-Raxaul sections. A question of taking up these projects will be considered after the gauge conversion of Barabanki-Samastipur section makes sufficient progress. Conversion beyond Raxaul up to Narkatiaganj is not contemplated at present.

Retirement of Officers in Railways

13. SHRI GUNA NAND THAKUR :

SHRI N. P. CHAUDHARI :

SHRI BHAIYA RAM MUNDA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of officials in Railways, Zone-wise who have been compulsorily retired from service after the proclamation of Emergency ?

THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SARDAR BUTA SINGH) : The Zone-wise number of officers who have been compulsorily retired from service after proclamation of Emergency is as follows :—

Central Railway ...	4
Eastern Railway ...	9
Northern Railway ...	13
North Eastern Railway .	4
Northeast Frontier Rly . .	6
Southern Railway ...	6
South Central Railway .	2
South Eastern Railway .	8
Western Railway ...	4
R.D.S.O.	2
C.L.W.	2
D.L.W.	2
I.C.F.	2
TOTAL....	64

**Nationalisation of Arrah Sasaram Railway
Line**

14. SHRI GUNA NAND THAKUR :

SHRI BHAIYA RAM MUNDA :

SHRI N. P. CHAUDHARI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the reasons for which Arrah Sasaram meter-gauge line under I a'nt Railway in Bihar has not been nationalised so far?'

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SARDAR BUTA SINGH): This Light Railway works under an agreement with the District Board of Shahabad, and under this agreement the Central Government does not have any financial or contractual obligations. However, as the Company was finding it difficult to run the line due to financial difficulties, the Central Government entered into a financial arrangement with the Company for a period of three years from 1-4-75, under which their audited working losses would be reimbursed. With this arrangement, nationalisation has not been considered necessary at this stage.