

(c) whether Government are considering to run the Danapur-Howrah fast passenger train again from Danapur in view of the inconvenience being faced in travelling between Danapur and Mokama Railway stations;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The run of 211/212 Howrah-Danapur Fast Passenger was cancelled between Mokama and Danapur from October 1999 for providing additional Engineering Time Allowance to facilitate track maintenance on the Danapur Division.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Due to line capacity constraints on Patna-Mokama section in the morning hours.

Development of Railway network in Karnataka

3541. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Railways has given clearance for floating Karnataka Railway Transport Development Corporation for expanding and developing the Railway network in Karnataka, from its own sources;

(b) if so, the details of implications of ownership lines on which trains would be run; and

(c) the investments proposed to be made by the Railways on the State Government owned corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Railways and the Government of Karnataka are discussing the terms of a MoU to form a joint venture company named "Rail Infrastructure Development Corporation (Karnataka) Limited".

As per the terms of the proposed MoU, the Ministry of Railways shall own the assets created through funds jointly provided by the Ministry of

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Railways and by the proposed Corporation. Detailed terms of the proposed MoU are still being worked out.

Facilities at Gaya railway station

3542. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Railways has recognised the importance of Bodh Gaya as a major tourist and pilgrimage centre;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken for providing computerised reservation, special quota for foreign and Indian tourists; and

(c) by when such facilities are expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A computerised reservation centre has been sanctioned to be set up at Bodh Gaya. The facility of foreign tourist quota can be availed by the foreign tourist from this centre.

M.G. rail lines in Rajasthan

3543. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of metre gauge rail lines in Rajasthan;

(b) the details of those metre gauge lines for which conversion work started more than two years ago but remains incomplete, and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted for gauge conversion of Himmatnagar Chittaurgarh *via* Udaipur metre gauge line; and

(d) if so, the when the said project is likely to be completed, indicating the estimated cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The total length (route kilometres) of metre gauge railway lines in Rajasthan is 2803 kms. (latest available figure as on 31.3.1999).