

(b) Gauge Conversion works taken up more than two years ago in Rajasthan and not yet completed are:—

- (i) Ajmer-Chittaurgarh-Udaipur
- (ii) Bhildi-Samdari
- (iii) Luni-Barmer-Munabao
- (iv) Agra Fort-Bandikui
- (v) Pipar Road-Bilara (part of Phulera-Jodhpur-Pipar Road-Bilara Project).

These projects could not be completed so far due to constraint of resources.

Work on conversion of Sri Ganganagar-Sarupsar and Rewari-Sadulpur M.G. lines is also included in the Budget. However, work on these projects will be taken up after obtaining the necessary clearances, for which necessary action has already been initiated.

(c) and (d) A survey for gauge conversion of Himmatnagar-Udaipur is in progress. Estimated cost will be known and further consideration of this project would be possible once the survey report becomes available.

Work on conversion of Chittaurgarh-Udaipur is already sanctioned as part of Ajmer-Chittaurgarh- Udaipur gauge conversion project and the work is in progress. The estimated cost of this work, including that of Ajmer-Chittaurgarh, is Rs. 445.38 crores. This work will be completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.

Grievances of Purbanchaliya Rail Karmi Parishad

3544. DR. SHRIMATI JOYASREE GOSWAMIMAHANTA:

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Purbanchaliya Rail Karmi Parishad under NF Railway gave notice for going on fast unto death to ensure fulfilment of their long standing greivances;

(b) if so, the circumstances which compelled them to resort to such a drastic step;

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(c) the list of demands and action taken to fulfil each one of these demands;

(d) whether Purbanchaliya Rail Karmi Parishad fulfil all criteria for recognition;

(e) if so, when it is likely to be recognised; and

(f) if not, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. A notice was received by NF Railway in July, 2000 regarding fast unto death hunger strike from 9th August, 2000. However, this notice for fast unto death has not materialised.

(b) and (c) The Parishad had been submitting memoranda of demands containing various issues during the last couple of years, on which action had been taken as per rules. The memorandum now received contains 36 demands which are under examination.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) As per the extant police, the affiliates of the two national level Federations viz, All India Railwaymen Federation and National Federation of Indian Railwaymen, who have presence/members on all the nine zonal Railways, have been granted recognition on Indian Railways. Sectional/regional unions are not eligible for granting of recognition.

New trains between Delhi and Bihar

3545. SHRILAJPATRAI:

SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce some new trains between Delhi and Bihar in view of the increasing number of passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when, these trains are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.