REPAIRS TO OR RENEWALS OF RAILS ETC. MIRAJ-LATUR SECTION

*650. SHRI U. S. PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state when the repairs to or renewals of rails, sleepers, fish plates etc., were last carried out on the Miraj-Latur section?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAM NATH): During the Second Five Year Plan complete track renewals of 10 kilometres and through sleeper renewals of 82 kilometres were carried out. In the Third Five Year Plan 34 kilometres of complete track renewals have been programmed and the work is in progress. In addition spot renewals are being carried out as and when the need arises.

FIRE IN DINING CAR

*653. SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the dining car of 6 Up Punjab Mail on the Central Railway caught fire between Lalitpur and Bina on the 19th November, 1964;
- (b) whether the alram chain did not work and the train did not stop; and
- (c) if so, what are the details of the incident and the reasons for which the chain did not work?

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

(b) The matter is still under enquiry and the exact cause why the alarm apparatus did not work, even though on examination at the very next stop it was found to be in good working order, would be known only after the enquiry has been completed.

(c) The incident took place at 17-30 hours on 19th November 1964, between Jakhlaun and Bina stations on Jhansi-Bina section in Dining Car No. 2542 attached to 6 Up Punjab Mail. As the chimney of the dining car was choked, the smoke could not escape through the chimney and passed through the lower portion of the chimney into the kitchen and the dining room.

FIXATION OF PAY AND SENIORITY OF STAFF WHO OPTED TO PROCEED TO PAKISTAN

*657. SHRI A. C. GILBERT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the orders issued under Railway Board's letter No. E49-AE1/9|3 dated the 10th January, 1951 regarding fixation of pay and seniority after taking into account the previous service, in respect of Railway staff who had opted for Pakistan in September, 1947 but later did not prefer to proceed and were subsequently re-employed in India, were implemented on Allahabad Division of the Northern Railway; and
- (b) if so, the number of employees who have been and the number who have not been, allowed the benefit with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) No, Sir as the said orders were not applicable in such cases.

(b) Does not arise.

New Consumer Industries in the Private Sector

*660. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that recently the Prime Minister asked the private sector to set up new consumer industries;
- (b) if so, what is the response to the request; and