

HALDIA PORTS

(b) by when the separate circle will be created and where it is likely to be located?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): (a) and (b) The existing Central Circle consists of the whole of Madhya Pradesh and Vidharba Region of Maharashtra. It has been decided to create a Circle with Headquarters at Bhopal comprising only the Madhya Pradesh area but on account of non-availability of office and residential accommodation at Bhopal, it has not been possible to constitute the Circle. Land has however since been acquired at Bhopal and the Projects of buildings have been budgetted for the current year. The Madhya Pradesh Circle will be shifted to Bhopal as soon as accommodation has been constructed.

SENIORITY OF MEMBERS OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS BOARD

44. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 179 in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th April, 1964 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some attempts were made to change the seniority of the members of the Posts and Telegraphs Board; and

(b) if so, whether Government received any protests against such attempts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI B. BHAGAVATI): (a) and (b) Representations were received from two members of the Posts and Telegraphs Board against superseding their seniority. There was also a representation by an officer claiming appointment to a post of Member, Posts and Telegraphs Board, on the basis of his seniority. The views of the Union Public Service Commission have been ascertained and the matter is under examination.

45. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decision on India's request for a loan from the World Bank for the development of the Haldia port has been delayed;

(b) if so, the reason for the same;

(c) whether as a result of the delay, the development work is going to be given up; and

(d) whether in this connection Government are trying any alternative source for loans?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) No, Sir. A request for a loan from the World Bank for the construction of the Haldia Port was made in December, 1963; the World Bank has asked for some ancillary information of a technical and economic nature which are under compilation. Further progress of negotiations will depend upon the evaluation of the project, together with this ancillary information, by the World Bank.

(b) to (d) do not arise.

RAILWAY STATION AT SATARA CITY

46. SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the popular demand and the need for a railway station at Satara City; and

(b) whether there is any such proposal under Government's consideration while broadening Poona-Miraj Railway line?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Yes.

(b) The various aspects of such diversion are being examined.