

[17 March, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

Ahmedabad Express (weekly), 2145/2146 Bhubaneswar-Lokmanya Tilak Terminus (weekly), 211/212 Puri-Sambalpur passenger (daily) and 221/ 222 Angul-Khurda Road passenger (daily) are running *via* Talcher Station.

The revenue loss incurred due to the agitation was Rs. 02.29 crores (Approx.).

(e) The present demand of local people is to run train No. 8303/8304 (Sambalpur-Puri Intercity-Express), 8413/8414 (Bhubaneswar-Sambalpur Express) and train 8473/8474 (Puri-Jaipur Express) *via* Talcher Railway Station.

(f) Running of additional trains as demanded *via* Talcher has been examined but not found operationally feasible and not commercially justified, hence not in national interest.

Backlog of track renewals

2531. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY:

SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of backlog of track renewals during the last five years;
- (b) the estimated time to clear the backlogs; and
- (c) how these works would be funded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Track maintenance is a continuous process. Track renewals are also carried out as and when they become due for renewal on age-cum-condition basis and availability of funds and resources.

The track renewal works due for renewal at the beginning of each year are as under:

Ason	Track Kms.
1.4.2001	17500
1.4.2002	16559
1.4.2003	17889
1.4.2004	15096
1.4.2005	10100

In last 4 year upto 2004-05 total 18948 Km. of track renewal works have been completed.

(b) The track renewal due as on 1.4.2001 to the extent of 16538 km. has been sanctioned under Special Railway Safety Fund (SRSF) and all these works are planned to be completed by 31.3.2007.

(c) The works becoming due for renewal from 1.4.2001 onwards are funded by Depreciation Reserve Fund (DRF).

Railway projects in Uttaranchal

2532. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway projects in the State of Uttaranchal sanctioned and undertaken during the last two years;

(b) the total funds allocated and spent on these projects;

(c) the details of new railway projects formulated and to be taken up for the development in this behalf in this State; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this behalf?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) The work of new line from Kichha to Khatima (57.70 Kilometres) was included in the Supplementary Budget 2003-04 at an anticipated cost of Rs. 165.67 crore. The final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition work has been taken up. The expenditure up to March, 2005 is Rs. 0.11 crore. An outlay of Rs. 5 crore has been proposed during 2006-07.

(c) and (d) No new projects have been formulated for being taken up. However, a survey for doubling from Laksarto Dehradun (79 Kilometres) has been taken up a a survey for new line from Tanakpur to Ghat Bageswar (110 Kilometres) has been proposed in the budget 2006-07.

Germ-free drinking water at New Delhi station

2533. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether passengers at New Delhi railway station are not getting germ-free drinking water;