

[24 February, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

construction of Kalka-Parwanu rail line, State Government of Himachal Pradesh had constituted a Committee to look into the technical constraint in the project. The Committee had submitted its recommendations to the State Government for dropping the work of Kalka-Parwanu and instead taking up construction of new line between Chandigarh and Baddi. Accordingly, survey for Chandigarh-Baddi new line was conducted and has recently been completed.

Regarding construction of new broad gauge rail line between Nagal Dam-Una-Talwara, the work from Nangal Dam to Churaru Takrala (33 kms~) has already been completed and opened for traffic. The work has been taken up on Churaru Takrala-Amb Anduara (11 kms.) where land has been made available.

An updating survey for new line from Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri has been taken up.

### **Freight Tariff**

692. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways are considering to lower its freight tariffs over 40 per cent in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Railways are considering to create a separate dedicated freight corridor project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (d) Ministry of Railways is examining the feasibility of developing Dedicated Multimodal High Axle Load Freight Corridors with Computerized Train Control System between Mumbai-Delhi and Delhi-Howrah. The cost of project has been estimated about Rs. 21140 crore.