

(d) whether stations at aforesaid places would be remodeled and upgraded with modern passenger amenities for suburban passengers/commuters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Electrification proposal of Singapur Road-Damanjodi section is under scrutiny in Railway Board's Office and final decision shall be taken based on operational & financial considerations. Rayagada-Singapur Road is a part of sanctioned Vizianagaram-Rayagada-Titlagarh-Raipur electrification project.

As regards, electrification of Haridaspur-Paradeep rail line, land acquisition and work on major bridges of Haridaspur-Paradeep new line project has been taken up. After completion of construction of new line, electrification of the new line will be undertaken. At present, the time of taking up the electrification work of the new line cannot be given.

(b) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to introduce MEMU trains between Bhubaneswar-Cuttack-Bhubaneswar, Bhubaneswar - Khurda Road-Puri, Bhubaneswar-Khurda Road-Berhampur, Bhubaneswar-Dhenkanal-Angul/Talcher, Cuttack-Paradeep, Rourkela-Rajgangpur-Jharsuguda, and Bhubaneswar/Cuttack-Keonjhar.

(c) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to introduce DMU train between Titlagarh-Jharsuguda *via* Sambalpur.

(d) All minimum essential passenger amenities have been provided at the above railway stations, as per norms. Further, improvement/upgradation/augmentation to existing facilities at railway stations is a continuous process and works in this regard are undertaken as and when so warranted by growth in passenger traffic subject to *inter-se*-priority of works and availability of funds. 20 stations belonging to the sections mentioned in part (b) of the question have been identified for upgradation under various modernization schemes such as 'Model Station Scheme', 'Modern Station Scheme' and 'Adarsh Station Scheme'.

#### **New railway connectivity between Jogighopa and Amingaon**

1659. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of proposal for the new railway connectivity between Jogighopa and Amingaon *via* Barpeta, Daulasal, Hajo and Sualkuchi;

(b) whether Government has fixed any time-frame for initiating construction work of the said new railway line;

(c) the details thereof;

(d) whether Government is considering to finish the said new railway line on priority basis taking it under North-Eastern region flagship programme; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) A survey for a new line between Jogighopa and Amingaon (136 km) has been completed in 2011-12. The estimated cost of new line will be Rs.1298 crore with Rate of Return of (-) 11.95%. The report after examination has been sent to Planning Commission for obtaining their "In Principle" approval, which is awaited.

(b) and (c) No time frame for construction has been fixed as this is not a sanctioned work.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### **Gauge conversion work in Tamil Nadu**

1660. SHRI A. A. JINNAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of gauge conversion work in Tamil Nadu, District-wise;

(b) the reasons for delay in completion of various projects;

(c) the details of fund allocated/spent on each project; and

(d) the time-frame set for completion of each of the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) Railway projects are not sanctioned district-wise/division-wise. However, gauge conversion of Pollachi-Podanur (40 Km), Tiruvarur-Karaikudi & Tiruturaipundi-Agastiyampalli (186 km) and Madurai-Bodinayakkanur (90.41 Km) sections of Dindigul-Pollachi-Palghat & Pollachi-Coimbatore, Mayiladuturai-Tiruvarur-Karaikudi & Tiruturaipundi-Agastiyampalli and Madurai-Bodinayakkanur gauge conversion project in Tamil Nadu are in progress.