

Rishikesh-Karnaprayag railway track

†3095. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the laying of Rishikesh-Karnaprayag railway track along with the details of the length of the railway line which has been laid, till date;

(b) by when the laying of Rishikesh- Karnaprayag railway track is likely to be completed for starting the operation of trains on this route;

(c) whether the laying of the said railway track is slowing down due to paucity of funds; and

(d) if not, the details of the funds allocated for this purpose from the date of sanctioning of work, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) to (d) Route selection of alignment of Rishikesh-Karnaprayag new line has been completed. Geological mapping work and Final Location Survey Work have been taken up before actual construction work. At present, no target has been fixed for completion of the construction of this new line. Since only survey work is going on at present; the work has not slowed down due to paucity of work. An amount of Rs. 6.61 crore has been spent on it by the end of the year 2012-13. An outlay of Rs. 5.0 crore has been provided to it during the current year.

New railway lines in Uttarakhand

†3096. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the railway routes which are currently earning comparatively lower income along with the names thereof;

(b) whether railway tracks are laid in the country only if they are profitable;

(c) if not, the reasons for not giving approval to the construction of new railway lines in Uttarakhand; and

(d) by when funds would be allocated for construction of Tanakpur-Ghat-Bageshwar railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.J. SURYA PRAKASH REDDY): (a) During the year 2012-13, 90 Uneconomic Branch

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.