

(c) Projects are taken up based on remunerativeness, missing links, socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon throwforward of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands.

(d) Demands for survey are received from time to time at various levels *i.e.* Railway Board, Zonal Railways and Divisional Headquarters etc. No compendium for demands received is maintained. However, between 2000-01 and 2014-15, 39 new line surveys were sanctioned in the State of Odisha out of which 18 surveys have been completed.

Kantabanji-Nabarangpur railway line

2317. SHRI A. V. SWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey and estimate of the Kantabanji-Raj Khariar-Dharamgarh-Nabarangpur railway line have been received by the Railway Board; and

(b) if so, the action taken to accord approval and make provision of funds for its implementation in view of the area being in backward Koraput- Balangir-Kalahandi (KBK) region and naxal affected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No, Sir. Survey for Kantabanji-Rajkhariar-Dharamgarh-Nabarangpur railway line has been taken up as a part of Kantabanji-Nabarangpur-Jeypore, out of which Survey for Nabarangpur-Jeypore has been completed.

(b) Does not arise.

Dependence on contract workers

2318. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what will be the priority of Railways—superfast trains, doubling of rail lines, electrification, new railway lines, improvement of quality of service or safety of passengers; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Railway administration is depending on contract workers more and more instead of maintaining a trained and efficient work force, leading to an increasingly poor service to passengers?