

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there have been protests against this move from the people of Odisha, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether it is proposed to revert back the said move, if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Do not arise.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of answer given in (a) above.

#### **Status of Tanakpur-Ghat-Bageshwar railway line**

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

(a) the status of laying of Tanakpur-Ghat-Bageshwar railway line, the details thereof;

(b) whether there is a possibility of laying of this railway line in future; and

(c) if not, the reasons blocking/can block the laying of this railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Survey for construction of new line from Tanakpur-Ghat-Bageshwar (155 km) in Uttarakhand has been completed. As per survey report, the cost has been assessed as ₹ 2791.00 crore with negative rate of return of 1.16%. The project could not be taken forward for execution due to un-remunerative nature, huge throwforward of ongoing projects and overall limited availability of funds.

#### **Gauge conversion**

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

(a) the time when decision was taken to convert Bareilly-Pilibhit-Khatima-Tanakpur railway line into broad gauge;

(b) whether the conversion of above line into broad gauge has been completed;

(c) if not, the details of efforts made so far to clear the obstacles; and

(d) the time by when this work would be completed?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.