

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) June, 1961.

(c) Yes.

(d) The work is expected to be completed by December, 1962.

**Metre Gauge Line between Manamadurai and Virudhanagar**

781. { Shri Umanath:  
Shri Nambiar:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) when Government propose to undertake actual work of construction of the Metre Gauge line between Manamadurai and Virudhanagar;

(b) the cause for the delay in undertaking this long promised work; and

(c) when Government propose to complete the work?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) Preliminary Engineering cum Final Location surveys for this line are in progress. Actual construction of the line will commence after the survey has been completed and the land required for this line has been acquired.

(b) There has been no delay in progressing the work.

(c) Expected to be completed by 1963-64.

**National Highway No. 34**

**782. Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that are being taken to complete the Gazol-Raiganj part of National Highway No. 34; and

(b) when it is expected to be completed?

**The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Works costing Rs. 51.05 lakhs for the construction of the Gazol-Raiganj section of National Highway No. 34 have been sanctioned and are in progress. Efforts are being made to sanction the remaining works estimated to cost approximately Rs. 22.10 lakhs.

(b) By the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan.

**Loans to States from Railways for Road Transport Development**

**783. Shri M. K. Kumaran:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the States that have received loans from the Railways for Road Transport development;

(b) the amount received by them;

(c) the dividends payable to the Railways by the States; and

(d) the dividends already paid?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) and (b). Railways have not granted loans to any of the States for road transport development. Railways have participated financially in Road Transport Corporations set up by some of the States under the Road Transport Corporations Act. Under the provisions of the Road Transport Corporations Act, no dividend as such is payable by these Corporations, as they are at present constituted. The Railways as well as the State Governments are eligible only for a fixed rate of interest on the Capital invested by each, the rate of interest being fixed by the State Government in consultation with the Central Government. Statewise details of the Capital investment and rate of interest are shown in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 98].

(c) and (d). Do not arise.