

*[English]***Land for Konkan Railway Corporation**

5161. DR. D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have acquired a special land for the Konkan Railway Corporation;

(b) if so, the total area thereof;

(c) whether the funds were disbursed by the Indian Railway Finance Corporation; and

(d) by what time this land is likely to be put to use?

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

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

*[Translation]***Habibganj Station**

5162. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the works proposed to be undertaken for the development of Habibganj Railway Station during 1992-93 and the financial provision made therefor;

(b) the various works which have been completed so far and the amount spent thereon; and

(c) the time by which the development work of the station is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) During 1992-93, improvement to station building and provision of various passenger amenity works are planned to be carried out at Habibganj. An outlay of Rs. 5.21 crores has been made during 1992-93 for these works.

(b) None of the works have so far been completed. Amount spent upto 30th June, 1992 is Rs. 2.95 crores.

(c) June, 1994.

*[English]***Pirtala Halt Station**

5163, SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert the Pirtala Halt Station in the Sealdah-Lalgolla station of Eastern Railway into a flag station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The proposal was examined and not found financially justified.

*[Translation]***Konkan Railways Bonds**

5164, SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVI SINGH PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to increase the interest rate of Konkarn Railways Bond;

(b) if so, the existing rate thereof and the rate by which the Government propose to increase it;

(c) whether the Government propose to give benefit of new rate to those who have purchased the said Bonds earlier;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) A proposal is pending before the Government to raise the interest rate of tax-free bonds.

(b) the existing rates are 9% tax-free and 13% taxable. No decision has yet been taken about any increase.

(c) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Double line form Tarakeswar to Sheoraphull (ER)

5165. SHRI ANIL BAUS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long standing demand of the people of West Bengal for a double line between Tarakeswar and Sheoraphull of Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Doubling of the existing single line sections is taken up when the carrying capacity is saturated freight-intensive sections being given priority. The level of traffic in Sheoraphull-Tarakeswar branch line does not justify doubling at present.

Improvement in Education

5166. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether parents forum in the Capital have represented for an improvement in education;

(b) if so, the details of their demands; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI . SELJA): (a) The Government have received a Memorandum from an organisation with the name of "Parents ' Forum for Meaningful Education " giving some suggestions for improvement of teaching-learning process and examination system in the schools.

(b) The details of suggestions are given in the statement attached.

(c) The suggestions are being regard to the CBSE for examination and advice, after hearing the representatives of the Forum, if considered necessary.