(a) whether there is any proposal to improve the facilities and introduce library facilities to travelling passengers in Kerala Express;

(b) whether it is also proposed to increase the number of coaches in Kerala Express;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Upgradation of Facilities/amenities is a continuous process. However, there is no proposal to introduce library facilities in Kerala Express.

(b) No, Sir.

.(c) Does not arise.

(d)   Resource and operational constraints.

Sitamarhi-Muzaffarpur Line

7933.   SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VARMA:Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted a survey for laying rail line between Sitamarhi and Muzaffarpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the rail line is likely to be laid; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The survey conducted in 1984 revealed that the estimated cost of the 63km. long BG Line at then prevailing price level would be Rs. 28.70 crores, with negative rate of return. Due to constraint of resources and heavy commitments on hand, there is no proposal to take up this line at present.

Fare for Trivandrum-Dubai Flight of Air India

7934.   SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the flying distance between Trivandrum and Dubai and chargeable fare of the Air India on this sector;

(b) the flying distance between Bombay and New York and chargeable air far therefor;

(c) whether there is disparity in chargeable fare per k.m. on both sectors; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (d). The flying distance, Economy Class air fares & fare per kilometer between Trivandrum and Dubai on one hand and Bombay and New York on the other hand is given below: