

### Railway Line from Kumarghat to Dharamnagar and Agartala

1428. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:  
SHRI BAJU BANRIYAN:  
SHRI AJOY BISWAS:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey for Dharamnagar-Kumarghat railway line project has been completed;

(b) whether the project is likely to be completed and commissioned by the end of 1989;

(c) whether the survey of Kumarghat-Agartala railway line project has been completed; and

(d) the allocation of funds made for this project during 1989-90?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. Final Location Survey is in progress.

(d) Rs. 3.5 crores (for Dharamnagar-Kumarghat)

### Incorporation of Separate Chapter in Negotiable Instruments Act

1429. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to incorporate a separate chapter XVII containing sections 138 to 142 in the Negotiable Instruments Act;

(b) if so, the main considerations for incorporation of this new chapter; and

(c) whether there will be any provisions for the erring banks if they willfully or by oversight return the cheque being unpaid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) A new Chapter XVII has already been incorporated in the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 by virtue of Section 4 of the Banking, Public Financial Institutions and Negotiable Instruments Laws (Amendment) Act, 1988 (66 of 1988).

(b) The main considerations, inter alia include to enhance the acceptability of cheques in settlement of liabilities by making the drawer liable for penalties in case bouncing of cheque is due to insufficiency of funds in the account or for the reason that it exceeds the arrangements made by the drawer. However, there are adequate safeguards to prevent harassment of honest drawers.

(c) Section 31 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 already provides that the drawer of a cheque having sufficient funds of the drawer in his hands properly applicable to the payment of such cheque must pay the cheque when duly required so to do, and in default of such payment, must compensate the drawer for any loss or damage caused by such default.

### Production and Productivity of Cardamom

1430. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of cardamom in the country at present;