

Upgrading of Jharsaguda Railway Station

2849. SHRI GANANATH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to upgrade the Jharsaguda Railway station junction in view of large number of passengers and which is one of the centrally located Railway stations; and

(b) any proposal for remodelling rest rooms, lodgings etc. for the welfare of the station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) No.

(b) No. At Jharsaguda adequate facilities like Retiring rooms, Waiting rooms, Platform covers, Goods Shed, Parcel Office, etc., commensurate with the volume of traffic dealt with, have already been provided.

Railway Line from Ankamali to Madurai

2850. SHRI GEORGE MATHEW: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make a cost-cum-feasibility study of a railway line from Ankamali in Ernakulam District along the foot hills of Kerala via Muvattupuzha to Madurai; if Government of Kerala is willing to provide the funds for the above;

(b) if the proposed railway line is found to be feasible and remunerative, whether Government propose sanctioning the work immediately; and

(c) when will the railway lines already under construction in Kerala be finished?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. No such proposal from the Government of Kerala, has however been received in recent years.

(b) The question of sanctioning of the project can be decided only after

the survey is carried out, reports examined and the project is cleared by the Planning Commission.

(c) Construction of only one new line project viz; Tirunelveli-Trivandrum/Kanyakumari which falls partly in Kerala is in hand at present. The construction of the portion of the line falling in Kerala is likely to be completed in about one year.

Expansion of Cochin Fertilizer Project

2851. SHRI GEORGE MATHEW: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether FACT plan for the phase III expansion of the Cochin Fertilizer Project will be accepted; and

(b) whether the Cochin refinery will be expanded to process more crude oil, so that the phase III fertilizers project at Cochin is benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. FACT had proposed the expansion of the fertilizer manufacturing facilities at Cochin by setting up additional nitrogenous capacity based on fuel oil as feedstock. This project could not be considered during the Fifth Plan Programme on account of severe constraints on resources, which necessitated shelving of certain projects included in the plan Programme.

A project at Cochin can only be based on fuel oil as the feedstock. In view of the advantages of the use of gas as fertilizer feedstock, preference is being given for setting up additional fertilizer capacity based on associate gas available from the Bombay High area and Assam. The Cochin project would, therefore, have a low priority and may not qualify for sanction in the near future.

Absorption of displaced persons in Cochin Fertilizer Project

2852. SHRI GEORGE MATHEW: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state whether