

Transfer of officers to prevent Rail Accidents

378. DR. HENRY AUSTIN:

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has taken a decision to shift the senior rail officers in various divisions;

(b) if so, the main reasons for their transfer;

(c) whether he is considering a major overhaul in the Railway Ministry to prevent rail accidents; and

(d) if so, the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (b). Recently reshuffling of officers in various Divisions has been effected to streamline the administrative machinery.

(c) and (d). Some steps have already been taken in this regard.

New Rail Lines in Southern States

379. DR. HENRY AUSTIN:

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN:

SHRI C. N. VISWANATHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken up a major programme for construction of vast net work of the new rail lines in the Southern States;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed programme; and

(c) the total cost of expenditure involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) to (c). The following 4 railway lines are under construction in the Southern States at an estimated cost of Rs. 95.68 crores:

S. No.	Name of the project.	Length in Kms.	Lates estimated cost. (Rs. in crores.)
1.	Mangalore-Hasan MG	189.00	42.42
2.	Nadikude-Bibinagar	150.00	19.96
3.	Tirunelveli-Trivandrum Kanyakumari .	159.80	25.25
4.	Bhadrachalam Road-Manuguru.	52.00	8.05
		550.80	95.68

Shifting of South Eastern Railway Headquarter

380. SHRI JENA BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether lots of representations have been made in the past pressing hard the demand that South Eastern Railways Headquarters should be immediately shifted to Khurda Road in view of the increase in quantum of

traffic in-flow and goods carriage in Orissa; and

(b) if so, what action has been initiated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SEO NARAIN): (a) and (b). A few representations have been received in the past for shifting the headquarters of South Eastern Railway to Khurda Road in Orissa.

These representations were duly considered but on both operational and administrative grounds it was decided to maintain the status quo.

Construction of Broad Gauge Lines in Maharashtra

381. SHRI R. K. MHALGI:

SHRIMATI AHILYA P. RANG-NEKAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that survey had been carried out as far back as seventeen years, for Latur-Pandharpur-Miraj Railway track in Maharashtra State for construction of broad gauge;

(b) what is the estimated cost of the project;

(c) whether Government did not take up the project till today on the plea of paucity of funds;

(d) whether Government are aware that lakhs of people from all over India visit Pandharpur annually for darshan of God Vitthal; and

(e) in view of the several representations including from State of Maharashtra urging upon the construction of broad gauge of the said rail track, will Government have a new look over the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes, a Preliminary Engineering-cum-Final Location Survey (along with a traffic survey) was carried out for converting Miraj-Pandharpur-Kurdwadi-Latur section from narrow gauge to broad gauge.

(b) The cost of the project Miraj-Latur conversion to B. G. was estimated as Rs. 43.12 crores.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) It will be possible to consider the project for construction when there is improvement in the availability of resources.

Marathe Committee Reports on Fertilizer Prices

382. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee on Fertilizer Prices set up under the Chairmanship of S.S. Marathe has submitted Part-II of its report;

(b) if so, when and what are its recommendations; and if not, what are the reasons for delay;

(c) whether Government have accepted the recommendations made by the Committee in its first Report; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Part-II of the Report of the Committee on Fertilizer Prices dealing with phosphatic fertilizers and freight is expected to become available shortly.

(c) and (d). The decisions of the Government on Part-I of the Report of the Committee are contained in a Resolution published in the Gazette of India on the 1st November, 1977, a copy of which is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library See No. LT-1041/77].