

in progress. The work on the first two miles of the canal in the Nepalese territory is proposed to be taken up first by the Bihar Government for which tenders have been invited and the officers and staff posted. This will be followed by works on the remaining portion of the main Canal, distributaries etc in the entire Nepal portion. After the Nepal works have progressed well, the works on the Indian portion will be taken up.

(b) The Western Kosi Canal is estimated to cost about Rs. 37 crores. The cost of works lying in Nepal is about Rs. 7.46 crores and the Government of India have agreed to provide special assistance to the Government of Bihar so as to complete the works in Nepal Territory in three years.

New Railway Lines from Jhanjharpur to Loukaha, Sakri to Rosera and Extension of Broad Gauge Line from Samastipur to Raxaul VIA Darbhanga

281. SHRI BHOGLNDRA JHA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether surveys for constructing new Railway lines from Jhanjharpur to Loukaha and Sakri to Rosera and for extending the broad gauge line from Samastipur to Raxaul via Darbhanga in the Samastipur Division of the North Eastern Railway have been completed, and

(a) if so, the result thereof and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T.A. PAI): (a) and (b) The following surveys have been completed:

(i) A feasibility study and traffic appreciation for the Jhanjharpur-Laukahabazar M.G. line, (length 42.55 kms - estimated cost Rs. 1.93 crores). According to the study report, the line is unremunerative. However, the report is under examination.

(ii) Engineering and traffic surveys for Samastipur-Raxaul via Darbhanga M.G. to B.G.

conversion (length 187 kms - cost Rs. 18.54 crores). The Survey Report shows that this conversion is also unremunerative. The report is however under examination.

No survey has been carried out for the Sakri Rosera line. However, a traffic survey for a line from Hasanpur (near Rosera Ghat) to Sakri is being undertaken.

Proposal for location of thermal Power Plant at Katihar in Bihar

282. SHRI BHOGLNDRA JHA
SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI

Will the MINISTER of IRRIGATION AND OWLR be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have got information about the Bihar Legislature having unanimously adopted a Resolution demanding location of the proposed thermal power project at Katihar in Bihar and opposing its shifting to Dhalkola in West Bengal, and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B.N. KUREEL) : (a) Yes, Sir. A resolution to this effect is understood to have been passed by the Bihar Legislature. This has not, however, been communicated to the Government of India by the Bihar Government.

(b) The matter is under review.

Pilferers caught hold by Assistant Yard Master of Kanakaria Yard Ahmedabad

283. SHRI BHOGLNDRA JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: