

- (a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to link Hastinapur with the rail line;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the item by which the work on above line is likely to be commenced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The survey carried out in 1995 revealed that the cost of 63.5 km. long line from Daurala to Bijnor via Hastinapur would be Rs. 66.74 cr. The line would have about 5% rate to return.

(c) The work could not be approved due to the unremunerative nature of the project and constraint of resources.

[English]

Rotational Transfers in CPWD Enquiry Offices

361. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of URBAN AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether rotational transfers are not being carried out in the CPWD Enquiry Offices upto the Division level;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to rotate the staff and officials periodically in the enquiry offices and divisional offices including the Executive Engineers.

(c) if so, the number of JEs, AEs, and XENs posted in Delhi for more than five years and have not been transferred out of Delhi as per transfer policy; and

(d) the action does the Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA) : (a) and (b) Rotational transfers are being carried out.

(c) and (d) A tenure of 8-10 years for Junior Engineers and Assistant Engineers and 5-years for Executive Engineers in Delhi has been prescribed. 437 Junior Engineers (Civil), 198 Junior Engineers (Elec.), 89 Assistant Engineers (Civil), 54 Assistant Engineers (Elect.), 69 Executive Engineers (Civil), 23 Executive Engineers (Elect.) have completed their prescribed tenure in Delhi. The reasons for these officers not being transferred out of Delhi are: (a) Court cases, (b) Compassionate grounds and (c) Exigencies of work.

International Airport in A.P.

362. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the site for an International airport has been approved in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the location of this international airport;
- (c) the total amount to be incurred; and
- (d) the time by which the work on this airport is likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. The existing Hyderabad airport has been developed and modernised, at an estimated cost of Rs. 100 crores as a model airport which can sustain limited international operations.

Sponge Iron Plants

363. SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sponge Iron Plants operating in the country, state-wise and location-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to accord sanction to the expansion plan of the Sponge Iron Limited, Andhra Pradesh at Kottagudem; and

(c) if so, the details thereof

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) As per available information, there are 23 sponge iron plants as listed in attached statement.

(b) and (c) The proposal submitted by Sponge Iron India Ltd. (SIIL), Andhra Pradesh, for expansion of its production capacity from 60,000 tonnes per annum to 1,20,000 tonnes per annum is presently under consideration of the Government.

Statement

List of sponge Iron units and their location

Sl No.	Name of the Unit	Location
1	2	3
		ANDHRA PRADESH
1.	Sponge Iron (India) Ltd.	Kothagodem Khammam A.P.
2.	Goldstar Steels & Alloys Ltd.	Vijayanagaram, A.P.
3.	Kumar Metallurgical Corpn. Ltd.	Nalgonda, A.P.
4.	Sunder Steel Ltd.	Rangareddy, Andhra Pradesh
		BIHAR
1.	Bihar Sponge Iron Ltd.	Chandil, Bihar
		GUJARAT
	Essar Gujarat	Hazira, Surat, Gujarat
		HARYANA
1.	Shyam Ispat Ltd.	Hissar, Haryana
		KARNATAKA
1.	Bellary Steels & Alloys Ltd.	Bellary, Karnataka

1	2	3
1. Jindal Strips Ltd.		MADHYA PRADESH Kharsia Road, Raigarh, M.P.
2. Prakash Industries Ltd.		Champa, Bilaspur, M.P.
3. Hindustan Electro graphite Ltd.		Durg, M.P.
4. Nova Iron & Steel Ltd.		Dagoria, Bilaspur, M.P.
5. Raipur Steels & Alloys Ltd.		Raipur, M.P.
6. Monnet Ispat Ltd.		Kurud, Raipur, M.P.
7. Raigarh Electrodes Ltd.		Raigarh, M.P.
1. Sunflag Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.		MAHARASHTRA Bhandara, Maharashtra
2. Lloyds Metal & Engineers Ltd.		Chanderpur, Maharashtra
3. Vikram Ispat Ltd.		Raigad, Maharashtra
4. Ispat, Industries Ltd.		Alibagh, Raigad, Maharashtra
1. Orissa Sponge Iron Ltd.		ORISSA Palasdonga, Keonjhar, Orissa
2. Tata Sponge Iron Ltd.		Joda Keonjhar, Orissa
3. Rexon Strips Ltd.		Rourkela, Orissa
1. Tamil Nadu Sponge Ltd.		TAMIL NADU Hastampatti, Salem Tamil Nadu

Konkan Railway

364. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure incurred on Konkan Railway since the commencement of the Project;

(b) the benefits coming to the commuters on this section; and

(c) the estimated profit vis-a-vis the cost escalation during the last three years coming through commutership to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Rs. 3534.26 crores till 30.3.98, Sir.

(b) The commuters are being benefited by substantial reduction in distance as well as travelling time via the Konkan Railway. The distance has been lesser by 500-1100 kms. on the new routes of Mumbai-Cochin & Delhi/Ahmedabad/Mumbai-Mangalore via the Konkan Railway than the old routes. Travelling time has also reduced by 10-26 hrs. on the Mumbai-Goa/Cochin/Mangalore legs of journey than before.

(c) Considering the fact that the Railway has been opened to through traffic only on 26.01.98, question of assessment of profit is too premature at this stage.

Trains on Konkarn Railway

365. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the trains which are going to Kerala via 760 km. long Konkarn Railway (KR);

(b) the various steps taken by the Union Government to enhance the revenue of Konkarn Railway;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to start a new Kurla-Mangalore train via Konkarn Railway in near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) At present 2431/2432 Nizamuddin-Trivandrum Rajdhani and 6635/6636 Kurla-Ernakulam Netravati Expresses are going to Kerala via Konkarn Railway.

(b) Steps are being taken to identify and divert more traffic from the Indian Railways on to the Konkarn Railway. Besides, major business development drives have been launched to augment traffic, the results of which will be visible after about a year.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) 2619/2620 Kurla-Mangalore Exp. is being introduced as a tri-weekly Superfast train w.e.f. 01.06.98 and it will become a daily service from 01-07-98.

[Translation]

Construction of over bridge at Habibganj Naka Level Crossing

366. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent any proposal to the Union Government for construction of over bridge near Habibganj Naka in Bhopal city :

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total expenditure is likely to be incurred thereon; and

(e) the share of expenditure to be borne by the Union Government as well as the State Government ?