

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) There was a discussion in the Lok Sabha on 29.2.1996 on this subject in view of winding up of the Srikrishna Commission of Inquiry by the Govt. of Maharashtra in January, 1996.

(b) No steps are either contemplated or necessary as the Commission has since been reinstated by the Government of Maharashtra in May, 1996. The Commission has been asked to submit the report by 24.1.1997

#### Palace on Wheels

602. SHRI S D N R WADIYAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether the palace on wheels has been gaining popularity in Rajasthan,

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce similar trains in other States, and

(c) if so, the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) A metre gauge tourist train has been introduced for the Gujarat Sector in collaboration with the Tourism Corporation of Gujarat which operates between Delhi Cantt.-Chittaurgarh-Udaipur-Palitana-Veraval-Ahmedabad-Jaipur-Delhi Cantt. between September to April

Contracts have also been awarded on the basis of global tenders to organisations in the private sector for the operation of five tourist trains on the following circuits :

- (i) Delhi-Jaipur-Agra-Gwalior-Jhansi (Khajuroho)-Varanasi-Lucknow-Delhi.
- (ii) Bombay-Aurangabad (Ajanta/Ellora)-Nanded-Secunderabad-Hyderabad-Pune-Bombay
- (iii) Goa (Mangaon)-Mangalore-Mysore (Batur/Halebid)-Hospet (Harpi)-Bangalore-Goa (Madgaon) (two trains).
- (iv) Bangalore-Mysore-Madras-Kodaikanal Road-Kanniya Kumari-Trivandrum-Cochin-Mettupalayam (Ooty)-Bangalore.

The above trains are likely to become operational by the end of 1997

#### Bridge at Bogibil over Brahmaputra

603. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to construct a bridge at Bogibil over the

Brahmaputra connecting National Highway No. 52 and 37; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Techno-economic survey and design of rail cum-road bridge across river Brahmaputra at Bogibil is being taken up shortly.

#### Passport Racket

604. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a racket involving issue of fake passports and visas was bursted in Delhi in May, 1996; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A case under sections 420/468/471 I.P.C. and 12 Passport Act was registered in this connection. Six persons were arrested. Ten passports were recovered from their possession.

#### Dual Citizenship

605. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the representatives of American Association of the Physicians from India (AAPI) approached the Government for issue of dual citizenship; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). Ministry of Home Affairs have not received any representation from American Association of the Physicians from India (AAPI) for grant of dual citizenship. However, question of grant of dual citizenship was considered but not accepted as the concept is not consistent with the Constitution of India and the Citizenship Act, 1995.

[Translation]

#### Dowry Deaths and Cases of Oppression

606. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases pertaining to dowry deaths and oppression upon Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes registered at the Police Stations in Fatehpur and Banda districts, Uttar Pradesh, during the current year;

(b) whether police have presuressed the victims to compromise or let off the culprits by changing the Section of IPC imposed in many cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the preventive measures taken by the Government to check recurrence of such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House

[English]

#### Train from Bhavnagar to Delhi

607. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no direct train from Bhavnagar to Delhi (WR);

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce a direct train to meet the demand made in the past; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) There is no direct train available between Bhavnagar and Delhi. However, one Hind sleeper class (GSCN) has been introduced between Bhavnagar and Delhi by 29/9/92 - 9901/9924/30 w.e.f. 10.5.95

At present, there is no proposal to introduce a direct train between Bhavnagar and Delhi.

[Translation]

#### Manmad-Malegaon-Nardana Line

608. SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to lay Manmad-Malegaon-Nardana railway line

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Reconnaissance Engineering-cum-Traffic Surveys for new BG lines from Manmad to Dhule via Malegaon (90 kms) and from Dhule to Nardana (37 kms) have been taken up. Further consideration of the projects would be possible once the results of the surveys become available

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Khurda and Bolangir Line

609. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have approved the construction of a railway line between Khurda and Bolangir in Orissa and sanctioned funds for the purpose;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not starting the construction work of the said line; and

(d) the time by which the construction work would be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The work of Khurda Road-Bolangir new line has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 353.38 crores. Expenditure upto 31.3.96 is Rs. 1.65 crores.

(c) and (d) Final Location Survey is in progress. Land acquisition will be done after the survey is completed. Work will be started once the land is made available by the State Government.

#### Progress of Railway Line

610. SHRI BAJU BAM RIYAN Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of the railway line from Kumarghat to Agartala; and

(b) by when this railway line is proposed to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The work is not yet sanctioned.

(b) Will be decided after the work is taken up.

#### Funds for Centrally Sponsored Schemes

611. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance provided to the Government of Gujarat during the Eighth Plan for implementation of the various Centrally sponsored schemes for increasing the agricultural production in the State; and

(b) the number of farmers benefited as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The financial assistance provided to the Government of Gujarat during the Eighth Plan for implementation of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes for increasing