

has any proposal to provide a halt at the Shasni and Para railway stations in Aligarh district? If so, what are the schemes of the Government in this regard?

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: I mentioned that it is on Hathras Junction-Tundla Section of the Northern Railway. The present passenger traffic is so small and there are only 11 to 15 people travelling and for practical purposes it is not possible to give a halt for express trains there.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, why the halt was withdrawn? Is there any proposal to provide a halt at the Para Station in the near future?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have already answered this question. It was decided to withdraw the halt because the passenger traffic is so small that not more than 11 to 15 people board the trains from there.

Expansion of Palanpur Station

*424 SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to expand the platform of Palanpur railway station and to increase the length of present shed there; and

(b) if so, the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has replied in the negative to the first part of my question. Palanpur is a big station, a major junction for that matter. A number of trains pass through this station every day and the existing facilities are inadequate and hence the passengers will have to face numerous difficulties. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government has any proposal to expand the platform of the railway station and increase the length of the existing shed there? if so, the time by which the proposal is likely to be implemented?

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: The existing facilities here are quite satisfactory and there is no point, at the moment, to take up the proposal.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I said that Palanpur is a big station and that the passengers are facing numerous difficulties due to inadequate facilities there. I wanted to know whether the Government propose to expand the platform and increase the length of the present shed and if the answer is in the affirmative, then the time by which the proposal would be implemented.

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: The station has a main platform measuring 411.48 metres (292 metres portion high level and 119.48 metres rail level) and an island platform with two faces (one face, i.e. platform No. 2, 304.87 metre long and second face i.e. platform No. 3, 344.50 metre long). the station handles 11 pairs of mail/express/passenger trains per day, the longest of which consists of 19 coaches and is normally received on the main platform which is sufficient to accommodate the same.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RATILAL VARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that many trains coming from all over the country stop at the Palanpur railway station which is located in north Gujarat and many things including cummin seeds (Zira) are loaded from there. Therefore, the Railways should make seating arrangements and provide potable water etc. for the convenience of the passengers. Similarly, the platform should be expanded and the length of the shed increased to cater to the needs of the large number of passengers boarding and arriving at the Station. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, whether the railways intend to provide these facilities and if so, by when do they propose to make them available?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): The existing arrangement is sufficient to take care of the traffic available. If the Hon. Member says that there is much more, we will get a traffic survey made.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

Gas Based Power Plants in Haryana

*408. **SHRI RAM PRAKASH CHAUDHARY:** Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up gas-based power plants in Haryana;

(b) if so, the names of places where these are proposed to be set up and the production capacity of each; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) proposes to set up a Gas based power project at Faridabad, Haryana, with a capacity of 800 MW.

[*English*]

Old Projects behind Schedule

*409. **SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:**

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of projects in oil exploration, production, refining and marketing, separately, which were lagging behind schedule;

(b) the estimated cost of each project;

(c) the cost escalation as a result of delay in implementation of these projects; and

(d) the steps taken to speed up the work of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). Following projects approved by Government are delayed and their cost overruns due to various factors including delay are as follows:-