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) to (c) Surveys were taken up separately from Dohrighat to Sahjanwa in 1977 and 1989 and from Khalilabad to Balrampur in 1979 and they revealed that the lines had poor traffic potential. In view of the grossly unremunerative nature of these lines and constraint of resources, these projects were not sanctioned.

Replacement of Railway Lines

3276. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD) : SHRI R.S. GAVAI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) length of railway tracks at the time of Independence:
 - (b) length of railway tracks added thereafter;
- (c) the length of old railway tracks replaced, Statewise: and
- (d) length of railway tracks yet to be replaced, Statewise?

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) The data of railway track (route kilometres) is maintained as on 31st March of each year. As such, the route kilometres of Indian Railways as on 31st March, 1948 was 54,693 Kms.

- (b) the route kilometres as on 31.3.1997 (latest available) is 62,725 kms. which shows a net addition of 8,032 route kilometres since 31.3.1948.
- (c) and (d) The figures of length of old track replaced since Independence is not available. However, during the last ten years, 31,652 Kms. of total track has been renewed. As on 1.4.1997 (latest available) 10,957 Kms. of track was due renewal. The information about track renewal as well as overdue renewals is not compiled State-wise, but Railway-wise.

[English]

Construction of New Railway line between Ghargram and Purulia

3277. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey has been conducted with

regard to construction of a new rail line between Ghargram and Purulia in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAIL-WAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PAR-LIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) The Reconnaissance engg.cum-Traffice Survey for New Line from Jhargram to Purulia (130 kms) has been taken up. The details will be available only after completion of the Survey.

[Translation]

Survey for Satna-Vyohari Railway line

3278. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TIRPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether survey had been conducted for a rail line between Satna-Vyohari in order to link Rewa (Madhya Pradesh):
- (b) if so, whether any budget provision had been made during 1996-97, 1997-98 to complete the above rail line:
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the work on this section is likely to be completed;
- (d) whether the Government propose to start an additional new rail service to connect Rewa with New Delhi directly; and
- (e) if so, the time by which the said new rall service is likely to be started?

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) to (c) Yes, Sir. A survey for Satna-Beohari via Rewa new line was conducted in 1990-91. However, the Planning Commission had cleared Satna-Rewa new line project only, which was completed and commissioned to traffic in 1993.

Besides, a new BG line from Lalitpur-Satna, Rewa-Sidhi-Singrauli and Mahoba-Khajuraho whose alignment covers Satna-Rewa, has been included in the Budget, 1997-98. Work will be taken up after the necessary clearnances have been obtained. Budget outlays of Rs. 0.01 crore and Rs. 1 crore have been provided for the work during 1997-98 and 1998-99 respectively.

- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.