

RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce new trains between Tirupati and Chennai, and

(b) 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) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Gauge Conversion of Ajmer-Bhilwara-Chittorgarh-Udaipur Rail Line**

1317. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated and released so far for conversion of Ajmer-Bhilwara-Chittorgarh-Udaipur Railway line into broad gauge line;

(b) whether the amount for 26 kilometer long Ajmer-Nasirabad route is being provided by the Ministry of Defence; and

(c) if so, the time by which the funds for remaining line is likely to be provided/released by the Government and the conversion work of above line is likely to be commenced and completed?

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. 20,49,06,000/-

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The work has been started and is expected to be completed within the 9th Five Year Plan subject to availability of resources.

[Translation]

**Winding up of Jamalpur Factory**

1318. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :  
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the Government are winding up the Jamalpur Railway factory gradually;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the strength of workers of the above factory has also been reduced;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to utilise the full capacity of above factory;

(f) whether the cost of several items manufactured by the above factory is lower than that purchased from the open market; and

(g) if so, the reasons for purchasing such items from open market?

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) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) There has been a reduction in staff strength as follows:-

Date	Staff Strength
1.4.1995	11,766
1.4.1996	11,461
1.4.1997	11,383
1.4.1998	11,104

The reduction in staff strength has been due to the retirement of staff on superannuation.

(e) The following activities are undertaken in Jamalpur workshop:-

- i) POH of Diesel Locos
- ii) Manufacture of 20 T and 140 T Diesel Cranes
- iii) Manufacture of 25 T jacks
- iv) Manufacture of UIC bogies
- v) Manufacture of Tower cars
- vi) Manufacture of Brake blocks
- vii) Manufacture of C & W spares
- viii) Rebuilding of BOX wagons
- ix) POH of cranes
- x) POH of Tower cars

To further utilise the capacity it has been proposed to undertake POH of 400 Four Wheeler Units of BG wagons

per month. The work has been proposed in the works programme 1998-99.

(f) and (g) Generally decision is based on manufacturing capability, capacity, pattern of workload and cost consideration. However for some of the items being manufactured the cost may be more compared with trade. The criteria used are:

Full utilisation of resources - infrastructure and manpower available.

Timely supply of spares for in-house use and Control over quality.

Jamalpur workshop produces spares worth about Rs. 40 Crores per year. Certain items for which manufacturing facilities do not exist in the shop like rubber, electrical components, specialised items from original engine manufacturer, large fabrication item etc. are procured from trade. Hardware items which can be produced cheaper by other factories solely devoted to the manufacture of these items e.g. bolts & nuts, rivets, washers etc. are also procured from trade. All raw material is also purchased from trade.

[English]

#### **Gauge Conversion of Salem-Cuddalore Rail Line**

1319. DR. SAROJA V. : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the gauge conversion work of Salem Junction-Cuddalore Junction rail line has been started;
- (b) if so, the present status thereof;
- (c) the total funds allocated for the project so far; and
- (d) the time by which the said project is likely to be completed?

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 (d) A survey for gauge conversion from Salem Junction to Cuddalore Junction has been taken up. Further consideration of the project will be possible once the survey report becomes available.

#### **Desert Development Programme**

1320. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in Rajasthan under Desert Development Programme, Shelter-belt plantation and road side plantation works were executed in the past and result of them were

found to be quite good;

- (b) whether new guidelines were issued banning of watershed development approach;

(c) whether Rajasthan Government has requested to reconsider that road side plantation and shelter-belt plantation works and has sent a proposal for shelter-belt plantation works execution under Desert Development Programme for approval by Government; and

- (d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. Shelter-belt plantation and road side plantation were taken up in Rajasthan as part of core sector activity of 'Afforestation & Pasture Development in Desert Development Programme'.

(b) No, Sir. New Guidelines for implementation of Desert Development Programme have been issued in 1994, under which watershed development approach has been adopted.

(c) and (d) Shelter belt plantation and road side plantation are already permitted as an integral component of watershed project under the new Guidelines for Watershed Development for implementing Desert Development Programme. However, the Government of Rajasthan's proposal to allow these activities outside watershed project area was not agreed to by the Ministry.

#### **Railway Bridges in Maharashtra**

1321. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of railway bridges/over bridges which are under construction in Maharashtra in terms of targets set during 1997-98;
- (b) whether a large number of projects are lagging far behind their schedule;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the fresh proposals, if any, received from the Government of Maharashtra for such bridges and the steps taken thereon;
- (e) the funds made available during each of the last three years to Maharashtra; and
- (f) the phased schedule for completion of these bridges during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

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)