

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Examined but not found feasible on account of operational difficulties and resource constraints.

Performance of Container Corporation of India

1978. **SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARDHANAN:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Container Corporation of India is functioning successfully;

(b) if so, the target set for handling containers per annum in terms of quantum of containers handled during last one year by different depots of the Corporation at major ports; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the corrective measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). During the year 1989-90 a total of 52,405 containers were handled by different depots. The target set for the year 1990-91 is 65,800 containers.

Setting up of a Thermal Plant in Malabar, Kerala

1979. **SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the location of a Thermal Power Plant proposed to be set up in Malabar, Kerala;

(b) whether the Government have received any report of the team appointed for the purpose; and

(c) when the construction work is proposed to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKANE): (a) to (c). The Eighth Plan to consider incremental generation capacities is yet to be finalised. The team has not suggested location of a thermal power plant in Malabar, Kerala to yield benefits in the Eighth Plan period either in the state or central sector.

Kudachi-Raichur Railway Line (SCR)

1980. **SHRI S.T. PATIL:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey was conducted for laying a railway line from Kudachi to Raichur on South Central Railway, long back;

(b) if so, the position of the proposed project as on date; and

(c) when it will be taken up for implementation?

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

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Issue of Debentures for Conversion of Lines in Maharashtra

1981. **SHRI PUNDLIK HARI DANWAR:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh proposal from the

Government of Maharashtra has been received by his Ministry for issuing debentures to convert the narrow gauge rail lines into broad gauge in Marathwada region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A proposal was received from the Chief Minister of Maharashtra for setting up a Corporation on the lines of Konkan Railway Corporation for the development of the following Railway network in the Marathwada region of Maharashtra.

1. Extension of Manmad-Aurangabad broad gauge section upto Parli-Vaijnath and Adilabad.
2. Conversion of Latur-Barsi-Pandharpur-Miraj Narrow Gauge section into broad gauge and extending it upto Latur Road and Laying a new Railway line joining Osmanabad with this line.
3. Construction of a new broad gauge line from Ahmednagar to Parli-Vaijnath via Bir.

However the surveys carried out for the above projects indicate that these projects would not be financially remunerative and hence setting up of a Corporation is not feasible.

[English]

Increase in Mark up of Medicines

1982. SHRI KALPANTH SONKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether trade margins and mark ups have been increase under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) what was the percentage increase in trade margins and marks up and who recommended these increases?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The increase in the MAPE under Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987 is based on the measures announced by the Government in 1986. Since there has been an increase in the MAPE under Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987, its benefit has also been passed on to the trade by increasing the trade margin. The increase in the trade margin is based on the recommendations made by the Committee constituted by the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals for the purpose.

The MAPE under Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1987 has been increased from the existing level of 40% and 55% to 75% and 100% in respect of Category I and II formulations respectively. Similarly the trade margin has been increased to the level of 16% for controlled drugs.

[Translation]

Rural Electrification in Madhya Pradesh

1983. SHRI RESHAM LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified in Madhya Pradesh from January to December 1990; and