

[Translation]

Conversion of Dahej-Samni Railway Line

*47. SHRICHANDUBHAIDESHMUKH:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert the Dahej-Samni metro-gauge railway line in Gujarat into broad-gauge; and

(b) whether keeping in view the oil-field of Gandhar, the Government propose of provide train service three times a day on this route by making use of diesel locomotives?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Dahej-Samni is only a narrow gauge line and there is no proposal to convert the same into Broad Gauge.

(b) No, Sir.

Cancellation of Trains

*48. DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI DILEEP SINGH
BHURIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several trains have been cancelled in view of the scarcity of diesel and other petroleum products in the country due to the Gulf war;

(b) if so, the names of trains cancelled in various zones;

(c) the criteria for cancelling these trains;

(d) the details of alternative arrange-

ments made for the convenience of regular passengers on those routes;

(e) whether any goods train has also been cancelled;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) the extent of petroleum products being saved by the cancellation of these trains;

(h) the revenue loss to railways due to cancellation of these trains; and

(i) the time by which all the cancelled trains will be restarted?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (f). The passenger services were withdrawn selectively, as per the statement given below, to increase movement of the freight traffic. No goods train was cancelled. While withdrawing the passenger services the traffic offering on the affected routes was kept in view. However, due care was taken to ensure that the alternative services are available and the hardship caused is minimal.

(g) The engines and paths thus saved are being utilised to increase freight movement. Therefore, there is likely to be no saving in consumption of diesel in the area of traction.

(h) No significant loss is anticipated as alternative services are available on the affected routes.

(i) A gradual process of restoration will be initiated as soon as the position starts improving.