

श्री शिव नारायण : पटना जंक्शन के लिए माप को नोटिस देनी होगी। ऐसे हम जवाब नहीं दे सकते हैं। यह क्वेश्चन मांटर साइकिल और साइकिल के बारे में है।

MR. SPEAKER: Then question No. 387—Mr. Alhaj, not present. Question No. 388—Chri Jyotirnoy Bosu, also not here. Question No. 389—Shri Krishna Chandra Halder.

Survey of Raniganj—Bankura Line

*389. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have completed the survey work for the construction of a new Railway line from Raniganj to Bankura; and

(b) if so, when the construction is expected to start?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b). The survey work for the line from Bankura to Raniganj, which was taken up at the cost of the Government of West Bengal, has since been completed and the reports have been submitted to the Government of West Bengal. The State Government's comments are awaited, after which further consideration to the construction of the line will be given.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Minister just now stated that survey work for the railway line from Raniganj to Bankura was taken up at the cost of Government of West Bengal and has been completed. I want to know whether this survey work was done by the Ministry of Railways. If so, what was the total cost of the survey work and what is the reaction of the Ministry of Railway in this regard.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The survey is already completed. The

cost that we have worked out is Rs. 8 crores. I am very happy to inform the House that from the point of view of a number of aspects—for instance, that is a place from which movement of coal can be made effectively, similarly there is adivasi area which is involved—if this line is constructed it will contribute to the development of backward areas. From these points of view we are favourably inclined to it. We have sent the Report to the West Bengal Government. After hearing from them we will take necessary decision.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: For the construction of new Railway line, what is the connection with the Government of West Bengal? Minister has stated that these are backward areas. You know Bankura and Purlia are backward areas. Recently it has been estimated that 180 million tonnes of coal deposit is there in Majia. If this Railway line is constructed, it will provide infrastructure for the industrialisation and coal can also be carried from Dhanbad area, Raniganj, Majia and Haldia at a minimum cost.

MR. SPEAKER: He has agreed to all that.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: I want to have a categorical reply from the Minister when will the construction of Railway line from Raniganj to Bankura be taken up for the development of the backward areas?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He has repeated the question in his first portion to which I have already replied.

As far as the second part is concerned I have given a clear answer that we are yet awaiting the final response of the West Bengal Government. Immediately after hearing from them we will take necessary decision. We are favourably inclined towards the construction of the line.

SHRI MUKUNDA MANDAL: I raised this question about six or seven months back in the Second Session and I requested the Minister to take up the construction of these very railway lines because of the backwardness of the area. The Minister assured during that time that he will look into the matter favourably. But since then the action has not yet been taken. So, I want to know from the Minister how much time will he take to complete the paraphernalia and when will the construction actually begin?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: This is exactly the same question already put by an hon. Member. Therefore, the reply would be the same. It cannot be a different reply to another member.

श्री शरद यादव : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो नयी रेल लाइनों का डेवलपमेंट हो रहा है उसकी तहज्जज लपुर से गोंडिया छोटी लाइन जो है उसकी भी बहुत दिनों में माग चली गयी रही है ।

MR. SPEAKER: This is a different question.

श्री शरद यादव : सरजी महोदय को यह मालूम है । यह डेवलपमेंट का मामला है, नयी लाइन का मामला है इसलिए मैं चाहता हूँ इस मामले में भी वे कुछ करें ।

MR. SPEAKER: Then the Railways in the whole of India will be covered.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: My question is very simple. When the survey work was taken up, it is clear that the Railway Minister got the sanction of the West Bengal Government also. After the completion of the survey, after spending, as given in the statement Rs. 8 crores, how is

it that this is being delayed and excuse is being taken that the West Bengal Government has not given its sanction? So, the construction of the line is being delayed. My question is a very simple question. Once you take the permission and sanction of the State Government why are you delaying in the matter? What is the policy of the Government in this respect?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: To a simple question my answer is also very simple. It is the usual formality for years together that whenever we undertake any survey at the instance of the State Government we refer the matter back to them and it is not at all any delaying process. And on this survey we have not spent Rs. 8 crores. What I have mentioned as Rs. 8 crores is the cost of the project. Actually what we have spent on the survey is Rs. 6.96 lakhs. I can assure him that immediately we get the comments of the West Bengal Government we will take proper decision in the matter.

Drilling in Jaisalmer

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*391. **SHRI NATHU SINGH:**

SHRI S. S. SOMANI:

Will the Minister of **PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS** be pleased to state:

(a) when drilling for oil was started in Jaisalmer district in Rajasthan;

(b) the progress made in this regard so far and the amount of expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) whether the Central Government have decided to stop oil drilling there; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.