

Signalling System

*247. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of total outlay being spent on signalling and telecommunication by Railways during the last three years;

(b) whether sufficient investment is being made on this crucial segment of Railway's operations; and

(c) if not, the specific measures taken so far to enhance the outlay and to make maximum possible use thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) The percentage of total outlay being spent on Signalling and Telecommunication by Railways during last 3 years is as under :

Year	Percentage
1992-93	5.85
1993-94	7.00
1994-95	7.51

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Passenger Coaches

*248. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether old and antiquated railway passenger coaches are being used on South Central Railway;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of old and outdated coaches being used in goods and passenger trains in each zone; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to replace them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(d) Coaches which have attained their codal life are examined and are replaced on age cum condition basis.

Urban Poverty Eradication Programme

*249. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments have been consulted in the formulation of Prime Minister's Urban Poverty Eradication Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the recommendations made by the Expert Group headed by Prof. D.T. Lakdawala appointed by the Planning Commission to study the subject in detail;

(d) the Government's reaction thereto;

(e) the role of local bodies in the implementation of this programme; and

(f) the funds allocated for this programme and the amount released to the States during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The draft scheme was circulated to the States/UTs and their comments/suggestions were taken into consideration. The details of the Programme are given in Statement-I enclosed.

(c) and (d). The expert group headed by Prof. D.T. Lakdawala has submitted a Report on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor. The estimates of the expert group have been taken note of.

(e) The Urban Local Bodies who will be playing a crucial role will be involved actively in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Programme.

(f) A sum of Rs.100 crores has been earmarked for the Programme during the current financial year, viz., 1995-96. The State-wise allocation/release of the funds is given in Statement-II enclosed.

STATEMENT-I

Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP)

Detailed/broad outlines of the Programme

- The PMI UPEP has been launched during the year 1995-96.

- It is applicable to all 345 Class II urban agglomerations having population between 50,000 and 1 lakh as per 1991 census where elections to local bodies have been held.

- Its main objectives are effective achievement of social sector goals, community empowerment, employment generation and shelter upgradation, convergence through sustainable support system and environmental improvement. A whole town project approach to cover all dimensions of urban poverty and the strategy of convergence of all sectoral programmes targeting the urban poor will be resorted to.

- It envisages active involvement of urban local bodies in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Programme, in view of the Constitution (74th Amendment) Act, 1992.

- It also envisages resource mobilisation through community, urban local bodies, NGOs and private sector participation. It provides for the creation of a National Urban Poverty Eradication Fund (NUPEF) with contribution from the private sector linked to 100% Income Tax exemption.

- It provides for self-employment through skill development. The maximum unit cost is placed at Rs. 1 lakh, with a subsidy of 15% of the project cost, subject to a maximum of Rs. 7,500/- per beneficiary. The beneficiary is required to contribute 5% as margin money. The repayment schedule ranges from 3 years to 7 years after an initial moratorium of 6 to 18 months as decided by the bank.

- Basic physical amenities under the Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums (EIUS) will be provided under two categories, viz., (i) in-situ environmental improvement of urban slums which will be funded 100% by the State Government under the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) and (ii) where such environmental improvement takes place in a permanent re-located site or in an approved area (distinguished from in-situ temporarily occupied space), the development cost will be shared on 60:40 basis between the Central and the State Governments.

- The Programme will provide basic physical amenities on a whole-town basis, like, water supply, general sanitation, garbage and solid waste disposal and small construction activities, e.g. roads, pavements, drainage, community baths/latrines, etc. funded on 60:40 basis between the Central and the State Governments.

- The ongoing scheme of housing and shelter upgradation will be implemented with a subsidy of 25% subject to a ceiling of Rs.2,500/- per unit. A loan component of Rs.10,000/- will also be arranged either from HUDCO or from any other financial institution.

- Multi-purpose community kendras, each of approximately 300 sq.ft., are to be set up to function as community pre-school/functional literacy/non-formal education, primary health care, cultural centres, etc., each for neighbourhood groups consisting of at least 100 families. The cost of construction would be shared on 50:50 basis between the Central and State Governments.

- A per capita cost of Rs.100/- in the first year and Rs.75/- in the subsequent years will be available for community activities.

- The Programme envisages NGO's participation and strong support to them with the objective of community development.

- The resources available under existing UPA Programmes of Nehru Rozgar Yojana and Urban Basic Services for the Poor for these towns will be transferred to other towns to avoid overlapping.

- There would be a provision of Rs.800 crores as Central Share for the entire programme period of five years (1995-96 to 1999-2000), benefitting nearly five million urban poor.

- A provision of Rs.100 crores is available in the current financial year, viz., 1995-96 for the implementation of the Programme.

- The funds will be allocated amongst the States/UTs on the basis of incidence of urban poverty and in relation to the number of towns.

STATEMENT-II

Central Allocation under Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP) for 1995-96

S. No.	State	Allocation (Rupees in lakhs)	
1.	Haryana	183.03	Released
2.	Kerala	263.20	-DO-
3.	Madhya Pradesh	772.87	-DO-
4.	Punjab	306.30	-DO-
5.	West Bengal	679.43	-DO-
6.	Andhra Pradesh	980.58	-DO-
7.	Maharashtra	948.60	-DO-
8.	Rajasthan	506.27	-DO-
9.	Assam	120.00	-DO-
10.	Nagaland	60.00	-DO-
11.	Goa	90.00	-DO-
12.	Uttar Pradesh	1516.63	RELEASE UNDER PROCESS
13.	Bihar	819.37 #	
14.	Gujarat	583.59 #	
15.	Karnataka	634.59 #	NOT RELEASED BECAUSE
16.	Orissa	269.17 #	ELECTIONS TO URBAN
17.	Tamil Nadu	1046.37 #	LOCAL BODIES
18.	A & N Island	50.00 #	HAVE NOT BEEN
19.	Pondicherry	30.00 #	HELD AS YET.

Weather Forecasting

* 250. SHRI V SREENIVASA PRASAD :

SHRI TARA SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :