

- (a) the progress made so far in the designing and development of the Rail Bus;
- (b) the estimated cost of each such Bus and its carrying capacity;
- (c) the number of such Buses proposed to be acquired for each zone; and
- (d) the time by which this Rail Bus is likely to become operational for carrying of/passenger traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) The designs of Rail Buses have been finalised. Orders have been placed for BG Rail Buses and tenders are about to be opened for MG Rail Buses.

(b) The cost of BG Rail Bus is Rs. 29.3 lakhs each and the cost of MG Rail Bus is estimated to be Rs. 25 lakhs each. The carrying capacity of BG Rail Bus is 76 seats and MG 60 seats.

(c) Five BG and five MG Rail Buses are being procured initially. Rolling Stock is procured for the entire system and not for any particular zone. These will be used wherever most suitable.

(d) The time by which Rail Bus will be operational depends on results of trials.

[Translation]

Damage of Foodgrains in Uttar Pradesh

3191. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV }
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD }

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether damage of foodgrains has been reported in Uttar Pradesh during the year 1992-93;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the quantity of foodgrains damaged in Uttar Pradesh each year during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A quantity of 339 M. T. (Provisional) of foodgrains has been reported as damaged during 1992-93.

(c) The details of foodgrains quantities damaged during the last three years are as under:

Year	Quantity of foodgrains stored (Lakh MT)	Quantity damaged (MT)	%age on average stock holding
1990-91	16.30	1189	0.07
1991-92	12.15	1327	0.11
1992-93	10.57	339	0.03

(P)

[English]

SDF Funds for Sugar Units

3192. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government to sanction funds from sugar development fund for restructuring of Bobbili and Seethanagaram sugar units in A. P.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount sanctioned and released till date; and

(d) the likely date by which the entire amount is likely to be disbursed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. M/s. Nizam Sugar Factory Ltd., Andhra Pradesh had applied for a loan of Rs. 1060 lakhs from the Sugar Development Fund for rehabilitation of their unit at Bobbili-Seethanagaram;

(c) The Sugar Undertaking has been sanctioned SDF loan of Rs. 789.44 lakhs, from the Sugar Development Fund for modernisation/rehabilitation, out of this, Rs. 690.76 lakhs has already been released to the undertaking.

(d) Steps to disburse the balance amount will be taken up after the completion of legal formalities, like creation of second charge for additional amount, submission of utilisation certificate in respect of the earlier SDF instalments, etc., by the sugar undertaking.

Ramagundam Project

3193. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ramagundam Thermal Power Station Extension Scheme has been cleared by his Ministry;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Appraisal Committee has visited the project site and after discussion with the project authority sought information and clarifications, necessary for the environmental appraisal of the project. These are yet to be furnished by the Project Authority.

Sriramsagar Project, Stage-II

3194. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Sriramsagar Project Stage-II has been cleared by his Ministry;
 (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) The Sriramsagar Project, Stage-II of Andhra Pradesh has not been received for environmental clearance so far. However, a proposal for diversion of 87.60 ha. of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the Sriramsagar Project was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh and was examined. Essential details which were lacking, were sought from the State Government in May, 1987. These are still awaited.

Tamluk-Digha Railway Line

3195. SHRI SATYA GOPAL MISRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the construction work of Tamluk-Digha railway line is behind the schedule;
 (b) if so, the details of the progress made so far and the reasons therefor; and
 (c) the steps proposed to be taken to expedite the work on this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Progress upto 4/93 was 16%. Work is being progressed as per availability of resources.

Train between New Delhi and Jammu

3196. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to introduce a triweekly express train between Delhi and Jammu Tawi; and
 (b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) and (b) The train has already been introduced in July '93 Time Table.

Employment in Agriculture Sector

3197. SHRI BOLA BULLI RAMAIAH }
 DR. D. VENKATESWARA RAO }

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of the study conducted by International Commission for Peace and Food on the employment potential in India;
 (b) whether the Government have examined the report of the said commission; and
 (c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government on the recommendations of the International Commission for Peace and Food?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The study conducted by the International Commission for Peace and Food on employment potential in India inter alia indicated the need for an additional 100 million new jobs by the turn of the century. The study envisaged a strategy of creating employment through intensive agriculture, agro-industries and agro-exports.

(b) and (c) Government have substantially raised the Central sector outlays for agriculture and rural development programmes during 8th plan. Generation of employment to achieve near full employment by the turn of the century is one of the major objectives of 8th Plan. New policy initiatives also aim at promoting agro-processing and agricultural exports.

Government have also decided to set up small Farmers' Agri Business Consortium (SFAC) to catalyse agro-industrial growth to organise technology transfer and input-supply and to promote production, processing, marketing and export of agricultural products.