

suspended. Production of Burley tobacco in the new areas depends upon the demand and supply position in the domestic and international market which is being dealt by Tobacco Board, Guntur.

Pending Projects of West Bengal

347. SHRI PRAMOTES MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal for Environmental as well as forest clearance for Subamarekha Project in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the names of such other proposal from West Bengal pending with his Ministry for environment and forest clearance;

(d) since when these projects are pending and the reasons therefore; and

(e) steps taken by the Government to clear such proposals within a stipulated time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH):

(a) Subamarekha project was received in February, 1994 for environmental clearance but not for forest clearance.

(b) Subamarekha project was accorded environmental clearance in September, 1994.

(c) and (d) Following two projects are pending with this Ministry for environmental clearance only.

Name	Date of receipt	Reasons for pendency
1. O.5 MTPA steel products at Jagdishpur of M/s Durgapur projects Ltd.	28.9.94.	Additional information is awaited.
2. Sagardhigi Thermal Power Station, 2X500 MW, West Bengal State Electricity Board.	15.2.1993	Revised EIA report is awaited.

Since no proposal has been received for forest clearance under F.C. Act 1980, therefore, the question of forest clearance does not arise.

(e) The project proposals will be considered for a decision from environmental angle within three months, from the date of submission of complete information to this Ministry.

[Translation]

New Scheme for Suburban Passengers

348. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Western Railway has introduced a new scheme namely "travel as you wish" for the suburban passengers;

(b) if so, the details and objectives of the said scheme;

(c) whether similar scheme is proposed to be introduced on other railway zones also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A *Statement* is attached.

(c) and (d) the scheme is proposed to be introduced on Central Railway system also.

Statement

The system introduced by Western Railway involves sale of rail travel coupons booklets of three types viz.

Type I: Costing Rs. 30 which includes 10 coupons of Re. 1 each and 10 coupons of Rs. 2/- each.

Type II: Costing Rs. 30 which includes 10 coupons of Rs. 2/- each and 2 coupons of Rs. 5/- each.

Type III: Costing Rs. 50 which includes 15 coupons of Rs. 2/- each and 4 coupons of Rs. 5/- each.

The coupons which are provided with certain security features have been given extended validity for single use any time upto the end of a financial year. The passengers can buy booklets of these coupons and whenever they want to travel on Western Railway suburban system, they simply have to tear off the coupons aggregating the fare for the intended distance of travel and thereafter insert these coupons for validation into any of the several coupon validating machines which are provided at vantage points at entrance of the suburban railway stations. These machines print 3 entries on insertion of every coupon. These entries are the date, the time and the station boarding from. The passengers can decide upon the amount of coupons which they have to utilise by simply reading the fare table which is being exhibited on top of every machine.

The objective is to reduce the waiting time of passengers in front of booking windows.