

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits likely to be accrued to the Government by this?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Cell to Redress Complaints

2109. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether there is any effective machinery to redress the difficulties/complaints of the passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have contemplated to set up a separate cell in each metropolitan city to solve this problem; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) A full-fledged Public Grievance Redressal Machinery is already existing on the Zonal Railways as well as on the Divisions headed by the Additional General Managers and Additional Divisional Railway Managers, respectively. This Machinery ensures quick redressal of grievances received from different sections of public including Suburban Commuters. Public has access to these officers also for ventilating their grievances in person.

At all the major stations in the Metropolitan cities, Public Grievance Booths have been set up to attend to public grievances and to provide on the spot redressal. The Station Superintendents also oversee and ensure proper functioning of these booths. Suggestions for improving the Passenger Amenities are also solicited and efforts made to provide better facilities to the passengers. Passenger Association are given due representation in the DRUCCs/ZRUCCs.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Indian National Trust for Art and Culture

2110. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the main objectives of Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural heritage;

(b) the amount of grant sanctioned and paid to the Trust during the last one year;

(c) the actual expenditure incurred by the trust during the above period;

(d) whether any report on the working of the Trust has been submitted to the Government; and

(e) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government on the shortcomings pointed out in the report?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) The main objectives of the Trust are to create and stimulate an awareness among the public for the preservation of the cultural and natural heritage of India, to undertake measures for preservation and conservation of natural resources and cultural property, to acquire cultural property, to undertake public conservation projects, documentation of cultural and natural heritage, to promote the preservation of traditional art and crafts, to act as culture bank for providing financial, technical and intellectual assistance towards the preservation of cultural and natural resources, to extend and strengthen cooperation with provincial, national and regional and international organisations, etc.

(b) The Department of Culture has not released any grant to the Trust during the last one year.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Department of Culture has not received any such report.

(e) Does not arise.

Expansion and Development of Railway Station

2111. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of railway stations have been identified by the Government in Andhra Pradesh for expansion and development programme; and

(b) the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) 90.

(b) Works are in various stages of progress and their completion will depend upon availability of funds in future years.

Conservation of Sri Kodanda Ramaswamy Temples

2112. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the conservation work of Sri Kodanda Ramaswamy Temple, Vontimitla, Cadapha District, Andhra Pradesh has been taken up by Archaeological Survey of India;

(b) if so, the progress made so far and the amount spent thereon; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Structural repairs of Northern and Southern Gopura entrances and watertightening of the entire outer pillared cloister after the replacement of the missing roof slabs have been taken up with an estimate of Rs. 75,600. The expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 49,058.

(c) The work is expected to be completed shortly.

Loss Due to Pesticides

2113. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether large number of farmers lose their lives due to pesticides poisoning while the country imports chemical pesticides worth crores of rupees;

(b) whether indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides has caused incalculable damage to every aspect of environment even as harmful organisms and their vectors are developing resistance to chemical pesticides; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken by the Government to substitute chemical pesticides by ecologically sound pest control technologies-biological control agents natural pesticides and eco-friendly chemicals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b). The chemical pesticides, whether imported/ manufactured indigenously, being toxic in nature, if not used as per the recommended practices may cause pesticide poisoning to human beings and harm to environment. The indiscriminate/injudicious use of chemical pesticides may also cause development of resistance in pests/vectors towards chemical pesticides.

(c) Following steps are being taken to minimise the use of chemical pesticides:

- (1) The Government is implementing ecofriendly approach of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for pest control which interalia focusses on adoption of suitable cultural and mechanical practices, conservation and augmentation of bio-control agents, use of need based pesticide as well as bio-pesticides and need based judicious use of chemical pesticides on the basis of economic threshold level of pests.

(2) It is proposed to open 4 new IPM Centres during VIII Plan to supplement the capacity of 26 existing CIPMCs to popularise IPM among the State Extension functionaries and farmers.

(3) A massive educational and training programme for farmers and State extension functionaries has been launched in collaboration with State departments of Agriculture in rice, cotton and other field crops. During 1994-95, about 1000 IPM Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) were set up. At each Farmers Field School 5 Agricultural Extension Officers (AEOs) and 30 farmers participated in the Practical Training held at the Farmers field once every week during the cropping season under the leadership of trained Subject-Matter-Specialist.

(4) For educating/training the farmers and AEOs, IPM manual as well as farmers field guides and posters have been published and distributed.

(5) Grants-in-Aid amounting to Rs. 360.00 lakhs has been released to various States/UTs. during 1994-95 for strengthening the bio-control laboratories.

Posts Reserved for SC/ST

2114. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes lying vacant in the Western Railway at present; and

(b) the reasons for not filling up of those vacancies so far?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Details about posts reserved for SC/STs lying vacant (shortfall) on Western Railway as on 21.3.1995 are given below :

| Group | Recruitment | | Promotion | |
|-------|-----------------------|-----|-----------|-----|
| | SC | ST | SC | ST |
| 'B' | No direct recruitment | | 2 | 12 |
| 'C' | 129 | 113 | 508 | 318 |
| 'D' | 31 | 103 | Nil | Nil |

(b) In case of promotional categories posts are lying vacant due to the following reasons :

(i) requisite number of SC/ST candidates not qualifying in the selection in spite of imparting proper pre-selection coaching;

(ii) non-availability of SC/ST candidates in the feeding grade;