

(a) whether Government had taken any decision last year to improve the passenger amenities at the Railway Stations in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken for the improvement of passenger amenities at different railway stations in Delhi during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Improvements to drinking water, catering booking and reservation, seating and waiting arrangements have been made at all the stations in Delhi area. In addition, staircase on platform No. 4 and 5 at New Delhi Railway Station and retiring rooms at Hazrat Nizamuddin Railway Station have been provided.

Termination of Contract by Iraq

1134. SHRI K.S. RAO:
SHRI T. BALA GOUD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited (RITES) had been awarded a contract by Government of Iraq for operation and maintenance of 516 Km. Bagdad Alquaim and Akashat railway line in 1987;

(b) if so, the amount involved and duration of the contract;

(c) the number of Indian railwaymen engaged in the project;

(d) whether Government of Iraq has recently requested the Union Government for termination of the contract;

(e) if so, the reasons given by the

Government of Iraq for unilateral termination of the contract; and

(f) the implementation of the cancellation of contract and the stand taken by his Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Amount: Iraqi Dinars 45.639 millions equivalent to US Dollars 146.45 millions.

Duration: 5 years from the date of commencement of operations.

(c) 1444.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No reasons have been given.

(f) Contract value will reduce to Iraqi Dinars 23.44 million equivalent to US dollar 75 million and in consequence infrastructural (overhead) expenses would have to be absorbed over a shorter period. Indian personnel would also return earlier than planned.

[Translation]

Stoppage of Punjab Mail at Nandgaon

1135. SHRI HARISHANKAR MAHALE:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide a two minute halt to Up and Dn 'Punjab Mail' at 'Nandgaon' station of Nasik district for the convenience of the public;

(b) if so, when it is likely to be done; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Stoppage at Nandgaon is not justified.

Allotment of Petrol Pumps in Rajasthan

1136. SHRI GOPAL PACHERWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state;

(a) the names of districts in Rajasthan where petrol/diesel pumps have been allotted by the different oil companies and the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes among them;

(b) the number of applications for petrol/diesel pumps in Rajasthan pending with each oil company and the number of applications of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes among them; and

(c) the time by which these applications are likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The names of districts in Rajasthan where petrol/diesel Retail Outlets are in operation are given in the Statement below. Out of a total of 850 Retail Outlets as on 1.1.90, 43 have been allotted to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and 28 to those belonging to Scheduled Tribes;

(b) and (c). Applications pertaining to 41 locations are pending with the Oil Selection Board (North) out of which 9 locations pertain to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.

However, in view of the various steps involved in the process of selection it is not

possible to indicate the exact time by which these will be disposed of.

STATEMENT

Names of the Districts in Rajasthan where petrol/diesel pumps have been allotted by the Oil Companies:

S. No.	Name of the District
1	2
1.	Ajmer
2.	Alwar
3.	Barmer
4.	Bundi
5.	Bhanswara
6.	Bharatpur
7.	Bhilwara
8.	Bikaner
9.	Churu
10.	Chittorgarh
11.	Durgapur
12.	Dholpur
13.	Dungarpur
14.	Sriganganagar
15.	Ganganagar
16.	Jaipur
17.	Jodhpur
18.	Jaisalmer