

1	2	3	4
	29.8.88	16.52	4
	30.8.88	15.82	5
	31.8.88	12.89	6
September, 1988	NIL	NIL	—
October, 1988	NIL	NIL	—

Gold Loans

1321. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a request from the Kerala Government that nationalised and scheduled banks in Kerala should be given direction to give gold loans on a larger scale; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India have reported that no request from the Government of Kerala for giving directions to scheduled commercial banks in including public sector banks in the State for giving gold loans on a larger scale has been received by them. The Reserve Bank of India have reported that it has not imposed any restrictions prohibiting banks from granting loans against gold ornaments and articles excepting against gold bullion. However, there is a ceiling of Rs. 10,000/- for consumption loans against security of gold.

Allocation of Water to States Under Bachawat Award

1322. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the States of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have utilised the quantum of water allocated to them under the Bachawat Award;

(b) whether any attempt has been made by the State of Andhra Pradesh to make use of the un-allocated water; and

(c) the quantum of water which has gone waste into the sea during 85-88?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Modernisation of Samastipur Railway Station

1323. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether Samastipur railway junction on North Eastern Railway has been modernized, and if so, the improvements made as a result thereof and the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : Samastipur station has been selected to be developed as a model station on North Eastern Railway.

The following improvements have been carried out at Samastipur railway station:-

1. Improvement to M.G. circulating area.
2. Improvement to B.G. circulating area.
3. Replacement of existing furniture and benches; and
4. Repair to latrines, bathrooms and provision of water coolers.

The total expenditure incurred on the above improvements is Rs 24.5 lakhs approximately.

[English]

Loss due to Floods

1324. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss caused to the Railways by washing away of the tracks, bridges, rolling stock and other property-as a result of the devastating floods this year, zone-wise;

(b) the estimated loss of revenue as a result of suspension of the train services on various sections affected by floods;

(c) the estimated expenditure incurred to restore the railway services on the sections where breaches took place; and

(d) the preventive measures being taken to meet such situation in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) the Zone-wise loss is as follows:-

	(Rs. in lakhs)
Central Railway	8.00
Eastern Railway	45.89
Northern Railway	1223.00
North Eastern Railway	0.64
Northeast Frontier Railway	36.00
Southern Railway	0.55
South Central Railway	88.62
South Eastern Railway	—
Western	27.65

(b) Rs. 17 crores (Approximately).

(c) Rs. 10 crores (Approximately.)

(d) In order to guard against the damage by floods, Railway embankments are pitched at the locations which are prone to breaches and additional openings are provided, wherever, found necessary, after detailed site investigations. Railways also stockpile sufficient quantities of track materials, emergency girders, coal ash, ballast, boulders and necessary plant and equipment at suitable sites so that the same can be rushed to the site of flood damage for undertaking the restoration work with the least possible delay. In addition, vulnerable reaches are patrolled during monsoon.

Royalty to States for Exploitation of Natural Resources

1325. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether royalty to States for the exploitation of their natural resources is revised after every four years;

(b) if so, in how many cases this has not been done although four years have passed; and