

operating a feeder vessel in the Bay of Bengal covering ports of Calcutta, Chalna and Chittagong and carrying such containers to Madras Port. The S.C.I. is also making arrangements for transporting containers from Mangalore and Tuticorin ports to the transshipment port.

Shipping Corporation of India is also planning to acquire its own feeder ships and till that time it would operate the feeder services with the help of its existing ships or by chartered vessels.

Production of electric Locos

1402. SHRI BEZAWADA PAPI REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be please to state :

(a) the number of electric locomotive on the Indian Railways and the total number of trains being hauled by Electric locos Railway-wise and gauge-wise ;

(b) whether Railways are self-sufficient in the production of electric locos ;

(c) if not, when Railways are expected to become self-sufficient ; and

(d) the total production of electric locos in the Sixth Plan and the expected production during Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) The total number of electric locomotives on Indian Railways as on 30.6.1985 is 1263 consisting of 1118 BG AC, 125 BG DC and 20 MG AC electric locomotives. Average number of mail express and other passengers trains hauled by electric locomotives per day on different Railways gauge-wise in June 1985 is as under :

Railways	BG	MG
Central	118	Nil
Eastern	117	Nil
Northern	135	Nil
Southern	46	44
South Central	42	Nil
South Eastern	94	Nil
Western	56	Nil

By and large, goods trains on electrified sections are hauled by electric locomotives but statistics of such trains are not available.

(b) No, sir.

(c) For future requirements, the production capacity of C.L.W. is proposed to be stepped up from 60 to 80 electric locos per year in the 7th Plan at the first stage. The achievements in this direction would depend upon availability of adequate funds. Self-sufficiency in production of electric locos is related to requirements of electric locomotives which would depend on the pace of electrification and funds availability.

(d) The total production of Electric locos in the Sixth plan was 269 locos and the expected production during the seventh plan is 350 locomotives by Chittaranjan Locomotives Works. The actual production will depend on availability of funds.

Departmental Flash Butt Plants

1403. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the departmental flash butt plants are below the rated capacity ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether there is any proposal to improve the capacity ; and

(d) if so, when and the details thereof ?

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) No, Sir. Keeping in view the age of different plants, there output is according to capacity.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The old Flash Butt welding Plants at Sabarmati on Western Railway and Chalisgaon on Central Railway have been recently replaced. Procurement of new plants to replace existing old plants at Jharsuguda (South Eastern Railway) and Arkonam (Southern Railway) have been approved. A new Flash Butt Welding plant for South Central Railway which did not have this facility so far has also been programmed.