

PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) Information about area of Railway land under encroachment is not maintained State-wise but Zonal Railway-wise as Railway zones span over more than one state.

However, the information in respect of Northern Railway, which covers the State of Himachal Pradesh, is as under :-

- (i) Railway Land under encroachment = 900 hectare.
- (ii) Number of cases pending in courts = 12,300
- (iii) Area of Railway land under leasing/licensing = 298 hectares.
- (iv) Area of Railway land lying unused at present, reserved for future, development/expansion = 1828 hectares.

#### Shuttle Train between Nasik-Mumbai

241. SHRI ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL :

SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any demand for starting the Shuttle train between Nasik-Mumbai is pending with the Government for the last 15 years;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the Shuttle train between Nasik and Mumbai is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (c) 14 pairs of trains have been introduced/re-organised from Mumbai Dadar/Kurla serving Nasik Road during the last 15 years.

Introduction of a shuttle train between Mumbai and Nasik Road is not feasible due to non-availability of terminal/maintenance facilities at Nasik Road.

#### Production in NALCO

242. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantum of Alumina and Aluminium produced by the National Aluminium Company Ltd. (NALCO) in its plants in Orissa during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(b) the target of production fixed by NALCO in those years;

(c) the steps being taken by NALCO to increase the production of Alumina and Aluminium; and

(d) the projection made for 2000 A.D. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) and (b) The target of production and actual production in respect of Alumina and Aluminium produced by NALCO for the years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 are given below :-

Year	Alumina (MT)		Aluminium (MT)	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
1995-96	800000	807130	195000	192288
1996-97	800000	840062	218000	203823
1997-98	800000	883300	218000	200162

(c) NALCO is currently implementing two projects i.e. one for expansion of capacity of Bauxite mines and Alumina Refinery and second one for expansion of capacity of Aluminium Smelter and Captive Power Plant. After the expansion projects are completed the capacity of Alumina production will increase from 0.8 Million Tonnes Per Year (MTPY) to 1.575 MTPY and that of Aluminium from 2,30,000 Tonnes Per Year (TPY) to 3,45,000 TPY.

(d) The projected production of Alumina and Aluminium by the Company for the year 2000-2001 is 10,50,000 tonnes and 2,36,000 tonnes respectively.

#### Cargo Flights Facilities at HAL, Nasik

243. SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great demand of cargo flight facilities at HAL aerodrome at Nasik;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision with a view to provide Cargo flight facilities at HAL aerodrome, Nasik, is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a), (b) and (c) The airport at Nasik belongs to Ministry of Defence. Being a defence airfield, cargo potential at this airport has not been studied so far.

#### Survey for Connecting Kolhapur with Konkan Railway

244. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted any proposal to conduct a survey to connect the Kolhapur with Konkan railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the present status of the proposal; and  
 (d) the time by which Kolhapur is likely to be connected with Konkan railway ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A demand has been made for connecting Kolhapur with Ratnagiri.

(c) and (d) A survey for a new BG line from Kolhapur to Ratnagiri on Konkan Railway via Talwade (115 Kms) has been taken up. Further consideration of the project will be possible once the results of the survey become available.

[Translation]

#### Punctuality of Trains

245. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the several passenger trains in the country are not running as per their schedule;  
 (b) if so, the reasons therefor;  
 (c) whether insufficient supply of coal is also responsible for such a situation; and  
 (d) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the running of trains gets affected at times due to reasons such as accidents, agitations/bandhs, alarm-chain-pulling, equipment failures, miscreant activities, bad weather etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Adequate quantity of coal is available on Indian Railways for steam traction

[English]

#### Cut in Strength of Armed Forces

246. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE :

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to

state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to cut the strength of Army by about 50,000 soldiers by 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure adequate and effective defence preparedness ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The Army has formulated a plan for effecting under-posting of 50,000 personnel till 31.3.1999. This will be done in a phased manner covering all types of units and formations. The financial savings generated would help modernise the Army in some measure.

(c) The exercise has been planned in a manner that there will no adverse effect on the defence preparedness of the country.

[Translation]

#### Production of Steel

247. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

SHRI K.P. NAIDU :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of production of steel in the country during the last two years;  
 (b) the quantity of steel imported during the last two years and so far in the current financial year indicating names of the countries from which it has been imported;  
 (c) the field in which the imported steel is being used; and  
 (d) the measures being taken to produce such steel in the country which is being imported at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) The details of production of finished steel (carbon) during the last two years is as under :-

	(In lakh tonnes)	
	1996-97	1997-98
Finished Steel	227.20	225.67 (Provisional)

(b) The quantity of finished steel (carbon) imported during the last two years and in the present financial year is as under :

	(In lakh tonnes)		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 April '98
	15.62	17.50 (Prov.)	10.40 (Prov.)